



OVC FY 2021 VOCA Victim Compensation Fellow

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Overview

The [U.S. Department of Justice](#) (DOJ), [Office of Justice Programs](#) (OJP), [Office for Victims of Crime](#) (OVC) is seeking applications for funding from individuals interested in participating in the OVC Fellowship program. This program furthers the Department's mission by improving the capacity of the victim services field to address the needs of crime victims.

This solicitation incorporates the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) by reference. The OJP Grant Application Resource Guide provides guidance to applicants for the preparation and submission to OJP of applications for funding. **If this solicitation expressly modifies any provision in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide, the applicant is to follow the guidelines in this solicitation as to that provision.**

Solicitation Categories

This solicitation does not include Solicitation Categories.

Eligible Applicants:

Individuals

The successful candidate must demonstrate substantial knowledge of data and research related to victimization and victim services, and have the skills to communicate orally and in writing with a broad audience of stakeholders. Applicants must be able to be onsite at OVC in Washington, D.C., for a minimum of 1 week per 6 months throughout a 36-month project period, unless there are unique circumstances that would prevent the grantee Fellow from being onsite. The grantee Fellow will work with OVC to determine unique circumstances and make adjustments, as necessary. Organizations are not eligible to apply.

To advance Executive Order 13929 Safe Policing for Safe Communities, as of October 28, 2020, the Attorney General determined that all state, local, and university or college law enforcement agencies must be certified by an approved independent credentialing body or have started the certification process to be allocated FY 2021 DOJ discretionary grant funding, as either a recipient or a subrecipient. For detailed information on this new certification requirement, please visit <https://cops.usdoj.gov/SafePolicingEO>.

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

OVC may elect to fund applications submitted under this FY 2021 solicitation in future fiscal years, dependent on, among other considerations, the merit of the applications and on the availability of appropriations.

Contact Information

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

For technical assistance with submitting the **full application** in DOJ's Justice Grants System (JustGrants), contact the JustGrants Service Desk at JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov or at 833-872-5175. The JustGrants Service Desk operates 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. EST Monday - Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays.

An applicant that experiences unforeseen Grants.gov or JustGrants 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.

For assistance with any other requirements of this solicitation, contact the Response Center by telephone at 800-851-3420 or TTY: 301-240-6310 (hearing impaired only) or by email at email to grants@ncjrs.gov. Response Center hours of operation are 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., ET, Monday through Friday, and 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., ET, on the solicitation closing date.

Pre-Application Webinar

OVC will conduct one pre-application webinar during which OVC staff will review the solicitation requirements and conduct a question and answer session with interested potential applicants. Participation in the webinar is optional. When the webinar has been scheduled, the details and registration information will be available at: <https://ovc.ojp.gov/funding/funding-webinars>.

Submission Information

In FY 2021, applications will be submitted to DOJ in a **NEW** two-step process.

Step 1: Applicants will submit an **SF-424 and an SF-LLL** in Grants.gov at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html>. To register in Grants.gov, applicants will need to obtain a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) and System for Award Management (SAM) registration or renewal.

Step 2: Applicants will submit the **full application** including attachments in JustGrants at JustGrants.usdoj.gov.

To be considered timely, the full application must be submitted in JustGrants by the JustGrants application deadline.

OJP encourages applicants to review, the "How to Apply" section in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Contents

Contact Information	1
Program Description	5
Overview	5
Statutory Authority	5
Specific Information	5
Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline	6
Evidence-Based Programs or Practices	6
Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities	6
Priority Areas	6
Federal Award Information	7
Awards, Amounts and Durations	7
Continuation Funding Intent	7
Availability of Funds	7
Types of Awards	7
Financial Management and System of Internal Controls	8
Budget Information	8
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement	8
Pre-agreement Costs (also known as Pre-award Costs)	8
Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation: Waiver	8
Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs	8
Costs Associated with Language Assistance (if applicable)	8
Eligibility Information	9
Application and Submission Information	9
Information to Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)	9
Standard Applicant Information (JustGrants 424 and General Agency Information)	9
Proposal Abstract	9
Proposal Narrative	9
Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline	10
Budget and Associated Documentation	10
Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based Form)	10
Financial Management Questionnaire (including applicant disclosure of high-risk status)	11
Additional Application Components	11
Curriculum Vitae or Resumes	11
Timeline Form	11
Documentation of Advancing DOJ Priorities (if applicable)	11
Documentation of High-Poverty Areas or Persistent-Poverty Counties (if applicable)	11
Disclosures and Assurances	11
Disclosure of Lobbying Activities	11
DOJ Certified Standard Assurances	11
Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items	11
DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements	11
Applicant Disclosure and Justification – DOJ High Risk Grantees (if applicable)	11
How to Apply	11
Submission Dates and Time	12
Application Review Information	12
Review Criteria	12

Review Process	12
Federal Award Administration Information	13
Federal Award Notices	13
Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements	13
Information Technology (IT) Security Clauses	13
General Information about Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements	13
Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)	13
Other Information	13
Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552 and 5 U.S.C. 552a)	13
Provide Feedback to OJP	13
Performance Measures	13
Application Checklist	14
	15

Program Description

Overview

The Department of Justice is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights, increases access to justice, supports crime victims, protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community.

OVC's mission is to enhance the nation's capacity to assist crime victims and provide leadership in changing policies and practices to promote justice and healing for all victims of crime. OVC achieves this mission, in part, by administering discretionary award programs supported by the federal Crime Victims Fund to develop innovative training and technical assistance, and to provide direct services to improve the overall quality of victim assistance.

The OVC Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Victim Compensation Fellow Program supports a grantee fellow at OVC. The individual awarded funding under this program will work collaboratively with OVC and the crime victim services field to improve support and resources for state victim compensation programs.

Statutory Authority

34 U.S.C. § 20103(c)(1)(A) and (c)(3)(E)(i)

Specific Information

This program will support one fellow assigned to OVC's State Victim Resource Division (SVRD). The SVRD Fellow will work with Compensation Administrators to identify resources (e.g., best practices) and what OVC can implement to better support states in the administration of state victim compensation programs, including increasing access to compensation and receipt of compensation for victims of color, who historically have not accessed or received compensation funding at the same rate as other eligible victim populations. The selected fellow will have demonstrated expertise in working with VOCA Victim Compensation programs and OVC.

Schedule: The grantee fellow will work full-time on project activities and deliverables throughout the project period. Grantee fellows will work with their grant managers to determine their individual schedules during the grant period.

Time sheets: Fellows will request scheduled drawdowns of grant funds under their awards based on the level of effort contributed toward the grant (time spent working on grant deliverables). The grantee must maintain time sheets and other documentation that substantiates and supports the grantee's level of effort for each drawdown period, and this documentation shall be available for inspection and review upon request from OVC during the grant.

Progress reports: Progress reports will be used to ensure that the fellow's activities support the stated purpose of the award and that the fellowship's deliverables are being met as established by the approved schedule for that reporting period. The fellow's financial, administrative, and programmatic compliance—and overall performance—will be monitored by a Grants Management Specialist within the assigned division, with ultimate oversight by an OVC Deputy Director or Associate Director.

Equipment/supplies: OJP will provide equipment, including computer, telephone and office supplies. When onsite OJP will provide work space and Internet access.

Security clearance: Any offer of a fellowship award may be contingent upon the applicant successfully passing a complete and thorough background investigation and drug test.

Relationship to OVC: Fellows are grantees and not federal employees, and therefore lack any inherent governmental authority. This means grantee fellows do not speak on behalf of the Federal Government, nor can they make decisions on behalf of the government. Grantee fellows are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times while working on fellowship grant activities. When grantee fellows are onsite, they are expected to comply with the workplace requirements generally applicable to employees at the work site.

Federal Debt: Applicants must certify in their application that they have no delinquent federal student loans or other unresolved federal debt, including unresolved federal tax debt.

Lobbying: Applicants may not be registered lobbyists at the time that the fellowship award is made or during the period of the fellowship.

Financial Management Training: Successful applicants must take the online financial management training for grantees to

ensure understanding of the requirements associated with recordkeeping and reporting. Information about the DOJ Grants Financial Management Online Training can be found at <https://ojp.gov/training/training.htm>.

Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline

Goals

The goal of this fellowship program is to improve support and resources for state compensation programs to more efficiently and effectively administer their programs and VOCA Victim Compensation Program funding, including increasing access to compensation for victims of color, who have historically had challenges with accessing or receiving compensation in comparison to other eligible victim populations.

Objectives

- Assist OVC/OJP work with State Administrators to support compensation programs;
- Assess individual state compensation programs, and applicable laws, rules, regulations, policies, and other guidance or programs impacting the operations and execution of state compensation programs;
- Identify barriers that prevent all victims of crime, including victims of color, from accessing and receiving compensation, and provide recommendations at the national and state levels to overcome those barriers;
- Advance OVC/OJP's support of compensation programs to promote equity in access to and receipt of compensation funding;
- Identify model best practices across compensation programs; share these best practices with OVC and other state programs; and develop trainings/public outreach efforts to raise awareness about these practices; and
- Make recommendations to OVC about how to institutionalize communication and collaboration innovations that will improve coordination with the Administrators.

Deliverables

- A nationwide assessment of state compensation programs, incorporating previous OVC/OJP and other field generated work in this area.
- A report on recommendations to improve OVC/OJP's efforts to enhance communication with states regarding compensation programs. This will include recommendations for OVC to institutionalize improved communication and collaboration with State Administrators.
- A report on recommendations to improve OVC/OJP's support of state compensation systems, policies, and structures, to include: (a) identified barriers that prevent all victims of crime, including victims of color, from accessing and receiving compensation; (b) recommendations at the national and state level to overcome those barriers; and (c) recommendations to advance OVC/OJP efforts to promote equity in access to and receipt of compensation funding.
- Trainings, outreach, public awareness efforts, and public resources, which are developed and conducted to raise awareness about OVC's efforts to increase support to state compensation programs.
- Focus groups facilitated with Compensation Administrators and OVC staff to gain a better understanding of the needs of the compensation programs at the state level.
- Monthly reports submitted to the Program Manager outlining the activities completed.

The Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables are directly related to the performance measures that demonstrate the results of the work completed, as discussed under Application and Submission Information.

Evidence-Based Programs or Practices

OJP strongly emphasizes the use of data and evidence in policymaking and program development in criminal justice, juvenile justice, and crime victim services. For additional information and resources on evidence-based programs or practices, see the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities

OJP may conduct or support an evaluation of the programs and activities funded under this solicitation. For additional information, see the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) section entitled "Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities."

Priority Areas

The Department of Justice is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights, increases access to justice, supports crime victims, protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community. In FY 2021, OJP will give priority consideration in award decisions to applications that demonstrate ways in which their projects will advance one or more of these areas.

To receive priority consideration for advancing one or more of the Department's priorities, the applicant must provide a sufficient narrative explanation as an attachment, that specifies how the project will advance the promotion of civil rights, access to justice, support to crime victims, protecting the public from crime and evolving threats, or building trust between law enforcement and the community.

In addition, OJP will give priority consideration, if applicable, to applicants that demonstrate that the individuals who are intended to benefit from the requested grant reside in high-poverty areas or persistent-poverty counties.

To receive priority consideration under the poverty priority, the applicant must provide information to demonstrate that the individuals who are intended to benefit from the requested grant reside in high-poverty areas or persistent poverty counties. For purposes of this priority consideration, the term "high-poverty area" means any census tract with a poverty rate of at least 20 percent as measured by the 2013–2017 5-year data series available from the American Community Survey of the Census Bureau (applicants may search by census tract at <https://www.census.gov/acs/www/data/data-tables-and-tools/narrative-profiles/2017/>) and the term "persistent poverty counties" means any county that has had 20 percent or more of its population living in poverty over the past 30 years, as measured by the 1990 and 2000 decennial censuses and the most recent Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (applicants may search by county at <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/dec/census-poverty.html> and at <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saie.html>).

Priority consideration is one of many factors that OJP considers in making funding decisions and is not a guarantee of an award.

Federal Award Information

Awards, Amounts and Durations

Anticipated Number of Awards

1

Anticipated Maximum Dollar Amount of Awards

\$400,000.00

Period of Performance Start Date

10/1/21 12:00 AM

Period of Performance Duration (Months)

36

Anticipated Total Amount to be Awarded Under Solicitation

\$400,000.00

Continuation Funding Intent

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

Availability of Funds

This solicitation, and awards (if any are made) under this solicitation, are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and to any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by the agency or by law. In addition, nothing in this solicitation is intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

Types of Awards

OVC expects to make awards under this solicitation as a cooperative agreement. See the "Administrative, National Policy,

and Other Legal Requirements” section of the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for a brief discussion of important statutes, regulations, and award conditions that apply to many (or in some cases, all) OJP grants (and cooperative agreements).

Financial Management and System of Internal Controls

Award recipients and subrecipients (including recipients or subrecipients that are pass-through entities) must, as described in the Part 200 Uniform Requirements as set out at 2 C.F.R. 200.303, comply with standards for financial and program management. 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. See [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

Budget Information

The following are the only allowable expenses under this solicitation:

- Personnel (salary), located in section A of the Budget Worksheet. Applicants must demonstrate that salary amounts are determined by education, and experience. Benefits are not included as part of salary.
- Fringe benefits, located in section B of the Budget Worksheet, may include life, health, and disability insurance; state workers' compensation; retirement plan; FICA (the employer match of 7.65 percent of salary only); and a public transportation stipend that does not exceed \$270 monthly, based on actual expenses. (This amount is based on the current maximum transit subsidy monthly benefit for federal employees and is subject to change.) Applicants must clearly identify which benefits they are requesting and the actual calculations. For example, if the individual is requesting health insurance, the applicant should indicate the amount paid monthly and multiply by 12 to get the annual expense.
- Travel expenses, listed in section C of the Budget Worksheet, will involve site visits, attendance at conferences and meetings, and participation in training and professional development training. Applicants should budget for 16 trips over the 2-year period. All trips should be budgeted at \$1,500 each, with a notation that date, location, and nature of travel will be determined in consultation with OVC management after the award is made. The applicant should include in the Budget Narrative a notation that travel costs, such as per diem and lodging, will not exceed the federal guidelines.
- Supplies, located in the Budget Form, may include expenses to cover professional reference materials and resources relating to the fellowship activities (not to exceed \$500) and business cards (not to exceed \$30).
- Expenses associated with professional development and training relating to the OVC fellowship project. Fees for up to four trainings at up to \$1,000 each should be included. Note: Many training opportunities will be in the Washington, D.C., area, which would be local for an onsite fellow; however, final decisions will be made in consultation with the grantee fellow's grant manager. Applicants should identify the type of training that they believe would be most helpful to them in carrying out fellowship activities.

The following expenses are not allowable under this solicitation:

- Equipment provided by OJP, such as costs for laptops or other equipment that will be supplied by OJP.
- Moving expenses.
- International travel.
- Indirect costs.

Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement

This solicitation does not require a match.

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

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

Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation: Waiver

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) information on Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation; Waiver.

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

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs.

Costs Associated with Language Assistance (if applicable)

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on Costs Associated with Language Assistance.

Eligibility Information

For eligibility information, see the title page.

For information on cost sharing or match requirements, see Federal Award Information.

Application and Submission Information

The following application elements **MUST** be included in the application submission for an application to meet the basic minimum requirements (BMR) to advance to peer review and receive consideration for funding:

- Proposal Abstract,
- Proposal Narrative,
- Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (web-based form).

See the “Application Elements and Formatting Instructions” section of the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on what happens to an application that does not contain all the specified elements or that is nonresponsive to the scope of the solicitation.

Information to Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)

The SF-424 will be submitted in Grants.gov. The SF-424 is a required standard form used as a cover sheet for submission of pre-applications, applications, and related information. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information on completing the SF-424.

In Section F of the SF-424, please include the name and contact information of the individual who will complete application materials in JustGrants. JustGrants will use this information (*email address*) to assign the application to this user in JustGrants.

Intergovernmental Review: This solicitation (“funding opportunity”) is **not** subject to [Executive Order 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.”)

Standard Applicant Information (JustGrants 424 and General Agency Information)

The Standard Applicant Information section of the JustGrants application is pre-populated with the SF-424 data submitted in Grants.gov. Applicants will need to review the Standard Applicant Information in JustGrants and make edits as needed. Within this section, applicants will need to: add zip codes for areas affected by the project; confirm their Authorized Representative; and verify the organization's legal name and address.

Proposal Abstract

A proposal abstract (no more than 400 words) summarizing the proposed project including primary activities, products and deliverables, the service area, and who will benefit from the proposed project, will be completed in the JustGrants Web-based form.

Proposal Narrative

The proposal narrative should be submitted as an attachment in JustGrants. The attached document should be double-spaced, using a standard 12-point Times New Roman font; have no less than 1-inch margins; and should not exceed 20 pages. Pages should be numbered and submitted as an attachment. If the proposal narrative fails to comply with these length restrictions, OVC may negatively consider such noncompliance in peer review and in final award decisions.

The following sections must be included as part of the proposal narrative:

a. Description of the Issue

The applicant must clearly articulate an understanding of the problem that this project plans to address by providing information about—

- Current practices in state compensation programs.
- How data can be used by victim compensation administrators and other providers in the field to improve services for victims.
- Gaps in information and knowledge by practitioners within the field.
- Gaps in accessing compensation, focusing on victims of color.
- Problems related to disseminating information to the field and integration of information into practice.

b. Project Design and Implementation

This section must—

- Specify the goals and objectives of this fellowship. The goals should be in alignment with the overall goals and objectives stated in this solicitation and relate directly to the description of the issue and needs identified in the previous section.
- Outline the process of completing fellowship activities and deliverables described in this solicitation.
- Include a time-task plan that clearly identifies objectives, major activities, phases of work, and project deliverables. The time-task plan also must provide for the submission of quarterly financial status reports and semiannual progress reports required of all grant recipients. The time-task plan, presented in chart or table form, is not subject to the 20-page narrative limitation or other formatting requirements described herein.

Fellows must plan to take the DOJ Grants Financial Management Training Seminar online or in person within 120 days of receipt of the award. Specific information about the dates and locations of upcoming OJP Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) events and information about the DOJ Grants Financial Management Online Training can be found at <https://ojp.gov/training/training.htm>.

c. Capabilities and Competencies

This section must—

- Provide a clear description of academic and professional expertise in the fellowship specialization subject matter area(s), including but not limited to, experience with administration or management of victim compensation programs.
- Document experience in providing oral presentations and developing written publications or technical assistance products for broad audiences of stakeholders.
- Describe other relevant competencies. Resumes or curriculum vitae must be included as a separate attachment.

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

This section must:

- State the applicant's understanding of the performance data reporting requirements for this grant program and describe a plan for collecting all of the performance measures data required by this solicitation.
- Outline a plan for conducting evaluation activities to determine if the project is meeting goals and objectives.

Note: Applicants are **not** required to submit performance data with the application. Rather, 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.

OJP will require each successful applicant to submit regular performance data that demonstrate the results of the work carried out under the award. The performance data directly relate to the goals, objectives, and deliverables identified under "Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables" in the Program Description.

Award recipients will be required to submit performance measure data and a semiannual performance report in JustGrants. Further guidance on the post-award submission process will be provided, if selected for award.

Sample performance measure questions for this program can be found on <https://www.ovc.gov/grants/pdfxt/TVS-questionnaire.pdf>.

Note on Project Evaluations

An applicant that proposes to use award funds through this solicitation to conduct project evaluations must follow the guidance under "Note on Project Evaluations" in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline

Applicants will submit the program's goals, objectives, deliverables and timeline, as noted above, in the JustGrants Web-based form. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

Budget and Associated Documentation

Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based Form)

Applicants will complete the JustGrants web-based budget form. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

Financial Management Questionnaire (including applicant disclosure of high-risk status)

Applicants will download the questionnaire in JustGrants and submit by uploading the completed questionnaire as an attachment in JustGrants. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

Additional Application Components

Applicants will attach the additional requested documentation in JustGrants.

Curriculum Vitae or Resumes

See the Proposal Narrative description for details.

Timeline Form

See the Proposal Narrative description for details about the Time-Task Plan.

Documentation of Advancing DOJ Priorities (if applicable)

As is mentioned above, OJP will give priority consideration in award decisions to applications that specify how the project will advance one or more of the following DOJ priorities: the promotion of civil rights, access to justice, support to crime victims, protecting the public from crime and evolving threats, or building trust between law enforcement and the community. Applicants will submit the narrative by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants.

Documentation of High-Poverty Areas or Persistent-Poverty Counties (if applicable)

As mentioned above, OJP will give priority consideration in award decisions to applications that demonstrate that the individuals who will benefit from the requested grant reside in high-poverty areas or persistent-poverty counties as defined above. Each applicant proposing to receive consideration under the High-Poverty Areas or Persistent Poverty Counties priority must provide a sufficient narrative explanation to identify each specific High-Poverty Area (by census tract number (s)) and/or each specific Persistent-Poverty County where individuals are intended to benefit from the requested grant and how the requested grant will address specific challenges in each such identified area and/or county. Applicants will submit the narrative by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants.

Disclosures and Assurances

Applicants will complete the following disclosures and assurances.

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Applicants will complete and submit the SF-LLL in Grants.gov. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

DOJ Certified Standard Assurances

See the DOJ Certified Standard Assurances in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items

Applicants will complete the JustGrants web-based Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items form. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

Applicants will review and accept the DOJ Certified Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements. See [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Applicant Disclosure and Justification – DOJ High Risk Grantees (if applicable)

If applicable, applicants will submit as an attachment in JustGrants See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information. A DOJ High Risk Grantee is a recipient that has received a DOJ High Risk designation based on a documented history of unsatisfactory performance, financial instability, management system or other internal control deficiencies, or noncompliance with award terms and conditions on prior awards, or that is otherwise not responsible.

How to Apply

Applicants will submit an **SF-424** and an **SF-LLL** in Grants.gov at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html>.

Applicants will submit the **full application** including attachments in JustGrants at [JustGrants.usdoj.gov](https://www.justgrants.usdoj.gov).

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

Submission Dates and Time

The **SF-424 and the SF-LLL** will be submitted in Grants.gov by 11:59 p.m., eastern time (ET) on July 6, 2021. 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.

The **full application** will be submitted in JustGrants July 19, 2021 by 11:59 p.m., eastern time (ET).

To be considered timely, the full application must be submitted in JustGrants by the JustGrants application deadline.

Application Review Information

Review Criteria

a. Merit Review Criteria

Applications that meet basic minimum requirements will be evaluated by peer reviewers. Applications will be evaluated on how the proposed project/program addresses the following criteria:

1. Description of the Issue (20%) - evaluate the applicant's understanding of the program/issue to be addressed.
2. Project Design and Implementation (20%) - evaluate the adequacy of the proposal, including the goals, objectives, timelines, milestones, and deliverables.
3. Capabilities and Competencies (45%) - evaluate administrative and technical capacity of the applicant to successfully accomplish the goals and objectives.
4. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures (5%) - evaluate the applicant's understanding of the performance data reporting requirements and the plan for collecting the required data.
5. Budget (10%) - evaluate for completeness, cost effectiveness, and allowability (e.g., reasonable, allocable, and necessary for project activities).

b. Other Review Criteria/Factors

Other important considerations for OVC include geographic diversity, strategic priorities (specifically including, but not limited to, those mentioned above relating to priority areas), available funding, past performance, and the extent to which the Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (web-based form) accurately explain project costs that are reasonable, necessary, and otherwise allowable under federal law and applicable federal cost principles.

Review Process

Applications submitted under this solicitation that meet basic minimum requirements, will be evaluated for technical merit by a peer review panel(s) in accordance with OJP peer review policy and procedures using the stated review criteria above.

OJP screens applications to ensure they meet the basic minimum requirements prior to conducting peer review. 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 necessary to meet the basic minimum requirements.

Pursuant to the Part 200 Uniform Requirements, before award decisions are made, OJP also reviews information related to the degree of risk posed by the applicant. 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 \$250,000 in federal funds, OJP also must review and consider any information about the applicant that appears in the non-public segment of the integrity and performance system accessible through SAM (currently, the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System, FAPIIS).

Important note on FAPIIS: An applicant, 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.

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.

Federal Award Administration Information

Federal Award Notices

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

Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements

If selected for funding, in addition to implementing the funded project consistent with the OJP-approved application, the recipient must comply with all award conditions, and all applicable requirements of federal statutes and regulations (including applicable requirements referred to in the assurances and certifications executed in connection with award acceptance).

For additional information on these legal requirements, see the “Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements” section in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Information Technology (IT) Security Clauses

An application in response to this solicitation may require inclusion of information related to information technology security. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on information technology security.

General Information about Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements

In addition to the deliverables described in the Program Description section, any recipient of an award under this solicitation will be required to submit certain 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.)

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information on specific post-award reporting requirements, including performance measures data.

Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

For OJP contact(s), see Contact Information.

For contact information for Grants.gov, see Contact Information.

Other Information

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

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

Provide Feedback to OJP

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

Performance Measures

A list of performance measure questions for this program can be found at: <https://www.ovc.gov/grants/pdfxt/TVS-questionnaire.pdf>. The award recipient under this solicitation will be required to complete the following sections, including any relevant shared measures.

- I. Training
- IV. Data Gathering
- V. Collaborative Partnerships
- VI. Strategic Planning

VII. Victim Services

Application Checklist

OVC FY 2021 VOCA Victim Compensation Fellow

This application checklist has been created as an aid in developing an application. The [DOJ Application Submission Checklist](#) is another resource.

What an Applicant Must Do:

Prior to Registering in Grants.gov:

- Acquire a DUNS Number (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Acquire or renew registration with SAM (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

To Register with Grants.gov:

- Acquire AOR and Grants.gov username/password (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Acquire AOR confirmation from the E-Biz POC (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

To Find Funding Opportunity:

- Search for the Funding Opportunity on Grants.gov
- Select the correct Competition ID [insert if applicable]
- Access Funding Opportunity and Application Package (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Sign up for Grants.gov email [notifications](#) (optional) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Read [Important Notice: Applying for Grants in Grants.gov](#)
- Read OJP policy and guidance on conference approval, planning, reporting available at [ojp.gov/financialguide/DOJ/PostawardRequirements/chapter3.10a.htm](#) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

Overview of Post-Award Legal Requirements:

- Review the “[Overview of Legal Requirements Generally Applicable to OJP Grants and Cooperative Agreements - FY 2021 Awards](#)” in the [OJP Funding Resource Center](#).

Scope Requirement:

- The federal amount requested is within the allowable limit(s) of \$400,000

Eligibility Requirement: Individuals

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

After SF-424 and SF-LLL Submission in Grants.gov, Receive Grants.gov Email Notifications That:

- Submission has been received in Grants.gov
- Submission has either been successfully validated or rejected with errors (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

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

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

Receive email notification to complete application in JustGrants:

- Complete Application in JustGrants

Content of Application Submission:

The following items are critical application elements required to pass Basic Minimum Requirements review. An application that OJP determines does not include the application elements that must be included in the application submission in order for the application to meet the basic minimum requirements, will neither proceed to peer review, nor receive further consideration.

- Proposal Abstract
- Proposal Narrative
- Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (web-based form)

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#### **Content of Application Submission**

- Information to Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) in Grants.gov
- Standard Applicant Information (SF-424 info from Grants.gov)

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

- Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

#### **Additional Application Components**

- Documentation of Advancing DOJ Priorities (if applicable)

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Disclosures and Assurances

- [Disclosure of Lobbying Activities \(SF-LLL\)](#) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items (Pending Applications) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- DOJ Certified Standard Assurance (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Applicant Disclosure and Justification - DOJ High Risk Grantees (if applicable) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

Submit Application in JustGrants:

- Application has been successfully submitted in JustGrants

If No JustGrants Application Submission, Validation, or Error Notifications are Received:

- Contact JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov or 833-872-5175 regarding technical difficulties