Office of Justice Programs
Office for Victims of Crime

OMB No. 1121-0329



The <u>U.S. Department of Justice</u> (DOJ), <u>Office of Justice Programs</u> (OJP), <u>Office for Victims of Crime</u> (OVC) is seeking applicants for funding for the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 National Joint Training Conference for State VOCA Victim Assistance and Victim Compensation Administrators, staff, and board members. Though the award will be made in 2013, the conference will be held in 2014. Additional funding may be made available in FY 2014 to support a conference in 2015, contingent upon grantee performance, overall evaluations, and availability of funds to support a second year. This program furthers the Department's mission by providing training support to VOCA victim assistance and compensation administrators and their staffs to help them improve the operation of their programs and fulfill their responsibilities under VOCA.

## **OVC FY 2013 National Joint Training Conference for VOCA Victim Assistance and Victim Compensation Administrators**

#### **Eligibility**

Applicants are limited to national associations, private nonprofit organizations (including tribal nonprofit organizations), faith-based and community-based organizations, colleges or universities (including tribal institutions of higher education), public agencies, or tribal organizations and federally recognized Indian tribal governments as determined by the Secretary of the Interior, that can demonstrate knowledge and understanding of VOCA assistance administration programs and possess the staff, resources, and capability to plan and implement a national training conference for approximately 250 VOCA assistance and compensation administrators, staff, and board members.

#### Deadline

Applicants must register with <u>Grants.gov</u> prior to submitting an application. (See "How To Apply," page 14.) All applications are due by 11:59 p.m. eastern time on March 18, 2013. (See "Deadlines: Registration and Application," page 3.)

#### **Contact Information**

For technical assistance with submitting the application, contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 1–800–518–4726 or 606–545–5035, or via e-mail to <a href="mailtosupport@grants.gov">support@grants.gov</a>.

**Note:** The <u>Grants.gov</u> Support Hotline hours of operation are 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except federal holidays.

For assistance with any other requirement of this solicitation, contact Maria A. Berry, Victim Justice Program Specialist, at 202–353–0501, or by e-mail at m.a.berry@ojp.usdoj.gov.

Grants.gov number assigned to announcement: OVC 2013-3498

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# OVC FY 2013 National Joint Training Conference for VOCA Victim Assistance and Victim Compensation Administrators (CFDA # 16.582)

#### Overview

Under this solicitation, the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) will make an award to an eligible organization to support the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 National Training Conference for VOCA Victim Assistance and Compensation Administrators and staff. Depending on grantee performance and funding availability, additional funding may be provided to plan and execute the 2015 conference, as well. OVC's funding of this conference will support the development and costs of administering a 2.5-day conference that will provide training and technical assistance (TTA) and facilitate a forum for the presentation of state issues and practices. The conference will employ lectures, panels, workshops, and forums to explore ways to improve the delivery of services; provide an opportunity for VOCA administrators to exchange information, views, and experiences; and provide training on effective program operations.

This grant is funded through VOCA, 42 U.S.C. 10603(c)(1)(A), which provides funding for TTA and demonstration projects.

#### **Deadlines: Registration and Application**

Applicants must register with Grants.gov in order to submit an application. The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) encourages applicants to **register several weeks before** the application submission deadline. In addition, OJP urges applicants to submit applications 72 hours prior to the application due date. The deadline to apply for funding under this announcement is 11:59 p.m. eastern time on **March 18, 2013**. See "How To Apply" on page 14 for details.

#### **Eligibility**

Refer to the title page for eligibility under this program.

#### **Project-Specific Information**

#### Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables

The selected organization will plan and administer training activities to bring VOCA assistance and compensation administrators, staff, and board members together for a training conference to explore ways to improve the delivery of a full range of services and financial assistance to victims of crime; to remain up to date on the latest issues and trends in victims services; to provide an opportunity for VOCA administrators to exchange information, views, and experiences; and to provide training on effective program operations.

The deliverables required by OVC for this project include the following:

1. A national training conference with an overall emphasis on VOCA subject matter, issues, and related criminal justice subjects.

- 2. A planning meeting to assist the conference coordinator to plan the subject matter of the conference and to identify possible speakers and workshop facilitators.
- 3. A conference at a selected time and location.
- 4. Conference materials, to be posted to the grantee's Web site.
- 5. A Final Conference Report, which will include the conference evaluations submitted by the attendees, assessment of the conference planning, and recommendations for improvement.

#### **Amount and Length of Award**

OVC anticipates awarding one grant of \$150,000 for a 12-month award period. Contingent upon grantee performance and funding availability, additional funding may be provided for the planning and execution of the 2015 National Joint Training Conference for VOCA Victim Assistance and Victim Compensation Administrators.

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

This award may be extended. This extension is contingent upon the performance evaluation of the 2014 conference and will be made at the sole discretion of the OVC Director.

#### **Budget Information**

Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation; Waiver: With respect to any award of more than \$250,000 made under this solicitation, recipients may not use federal funds to pay total cash compensation (salary plus cash bonuses) to any employee of the award recipient at a rate that exceeds 110 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. The 2012 salary table for SES employees is available at <a href="www.opm.gov/oca/12tables/indexSES.asp">www.opm.gov/oca/12tables/indexSES.asp</a>. Note: A recipient may compensate an employee at a greater rate, provided the amount in excess of this compensation limitation is paid with non-federal funds. (Any such additional compensation will not be considered matching funds where match requirements apply.)

The Assistant Attorney General (AAG) for OJP may exercise discretion to waive, on an individual basis, the limitation on compensation rates allowable under an award. An applicant requesting a waiver should include a detailed justification in the Budget Narrative of the application. Unless the applicant submits a waiver request and justification with the application, the applicant should anticipate that OJP will request the applicant to adjust and resubmit the budget.

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

#### **Minimization of Conference Costs**

OVC encourages applicants to review the OJP guidance on conference approval, planning, and reporting that is available on the OJP Web site at <a href="https://www.ojp.gov/funding/confcost.htm">www.ojp.gov/funding/confcost.htm</a>. This guidance provides the current OJP policy, which requires all funding recipients that propose to

hold or sponsor conferences (including meetings, trainings, and other similar events) to minimize costs, requires OJP review and prior written approval of most conference costs for cooperative agreement recipients (and certain costs for grant recipients), and generally prohibits the use of OJP funding to provide food and beverages at conferences. The guidance also sets upper limits on many conference costs, including facility space, audiovisual services, logistical planning services, programmatic planning services, and food and beverages (in the rare cases where food and beverage costs are permitted at all).

Prior review and approval of conference costs can take time (see the guidance for specific deadlines), and applicants should take this into account when submitting proposals. Applicants also should understand that conference cost limits may change and that they should check the guidance for updates before incurring such costs.

Note on food and beverages: OJP may make exceptions to the general prohibition on using OJP funding for food and beverages, but will do so only in rare cases where food and beverages are not otherwise available (e.g., in extremely remote areas); the size of the event and capacity of nearby food and beverage vendors would make it impractical to not provide food and beverages; or a special presentation at a conference requires a plenary address where conference participants have no other time to obtain food and beverages. Any such exception requires OJP's prior written approval. The restriction on food and beverages does not apply to water provided at no cost, but does apply to any and all other refreshments, regardless of the size or nature of the meeting. Additionally, this restriction does not affect direct payment of per diem amounts to individuals in a travel status under your organization's travel policy.

#### **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 of the OJP "Other Requirements for OJP Applications" Web page at <a href="https://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/other\_requirements.htm">www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/other\_requirements.htm</a>.

#### **Match 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.

#### **Performance Measures**

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

Objective	Performance Measure(s)	Data Grantee Provides
Disseminate innovative approaches to affect change in the	Number of training sessions provided.	Number of training sessions provided.
administration of VOCA grants to maximize assistance to victims in the state.	Number of participants who attended the training.	Number of participants who attended the training, by type of participant (i.e., VOCA administrators, VOCA staff).
	Percentage of participants who rated the training as satisfactory or better.	Number of participants reporting.
		Number of participants who rated the training as satisfactory or better.
	Number of materials developed.	Number of TTA materials developed.

OJP does not require applicants to submit performance measures data with their applications. Instead, applicants should discuss in their application their proposed methods for collecting data for performance measures. Refer to the section "What an Application Should Include" below for additional information.

#### **Notice of Post-Award FFATA Reporting Requirement**

Applicants should anticipate that OJP will require all recipients (other than individuals) of awards of \$25,000 or more under this solicitation, consistent with the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA), to report award information on any first-tier sub-awards totaling \$25,000 or more, and, in certain cases, to report information on the names and total compensation of the five most highly compensated executives of the recipient and first-tier sub-recipients. Each applicant entity must ensure that it has the necessary processes and systems in place to comply with the reporting requirements should it receive funding. Reports regarding sub-awards will be made through the FFATA Sub-award Reporting System (FSRS), found at <a href="https://www.fsrs.gov">www.fsrs.gov</a>.

Please note also that applicants should anticipate that no sub-award of an award made under this solicitation may be made to a sub-recipient (other than an individual) unless the potential sub-recipient acquires and provides a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number.

#### What an Application Should Include

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

Moreover, applicants should anticipate that applications that are determined to be non-responsive to the scope of the solicitation, or that do not include the application elements that OVC has designated to be critical, will neither proceed to peer review nor receive further consideration. Under this solicitation, OVC has designated the following application elements as critical: Program Narrative, Budget Detail Worksheet, and Budget Narrative. Applicants may combine the Budget Narrative and the Budget Detail Worksheet in one document; however, if an applicant submits only one document, it must contain **both** narrative and detail information.

OJP strongly recommends use of appropriately descriptive file names (e.g., "Program Narrative," "Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative," "Timelines," "Memoranda of Understanding," "Resumes") for all attachments. OJP recommends that resumes be included in a single file.

1. Information To Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)

The SF-424 is a required standard form used as a cover sheet for submission of preapplications, applications, and related information. Grants.gov and OJP's 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).

#### 2. Abstract

Applications should include a high-quality "Project Abstract" that summarizes the proposed project in 400 words or less. The project abstract should be a 1-page summary that describes the purpose of the project, goals and objectives, progress to date if the application is for continuation funding, and activities that will be implemented to achieve the project's goals and objectives, methods, and outcomes; written for a general public audience; submitted as a separate attachment with "Project Abstract" as part of its file name; and single-spaced, using a standard 12-point font with 1-inch margins.

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

All project abstracts should follow the detailed template available at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/Project Abstract Template.pdf.

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

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

#### 3. Program Narrative

The program narrative should not exceed 25 double-spaced pages in 12-point font with 1-inch margins, and must include 6 separate sections: Project Abstract, Problem Statement, Project Goals and Objectives, Project Design/ Implementation Plan,

Organizational Capability and Project Management, and Plans for Measuring Progress and Outcomes.

The following sections should be included as part of the program narrative. 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. Each section is described below.

- Statement of the Problem: The problem statement must describe the need for the project and provide a clear statement of how funding will support the project's value to the victims field by meeting a stated goal.
- Project Goals and Objectives: The applicant must specify the goals and objectives of the project and, if the application is for continuation funding, must describe the accomplishments and document the progress of the existing project. The objectives should be measurable and relate directly to the issues described in the problem statement. The goals should state the overall purpose of what is to be accomplished. The objectives should describe the steps necessary to reach the goals or how the goals will be accomplished.
- Project Design/Implementation Plan: The project design and implementation plan must describe the project strategy and discuss how the strategy will address the identified problems and support the goals and objectives. The applicant's strategy or design must include a description of project phases, tasks, activities, staff responsibilities, and clear descriptions of interim deliverables and final products. It must include a time-task plan that clearly identifies objectives, major activities, and products.

The applicant must describe the strategy, tasks, and time-task plan for developing the services and products. Applicants must develop a time-task plan that clearly identifies major activities and products for the duration of the project period. This plan must include the designation of organizational responsibility, a schedule for the completion of the activities, and the submission of finished products. The plan also must provide for the submission of financial and progress reports. All recipients are required to submit semiannual progress reports and quarterly financial reports. Final drafts of all publications, including videos, are to be submitted 120 days prior to the end of the grant period. In most instances, the draft publication will undergo an external review by subject matter experts retained by OVC to provide written comments on the publication's accuracy, relevance, and readability, and to provide suggestions to enhance the publication. In all instances, the publication will be reviewed internally by OVC and other DOJ agencies. OVC's Publishing Guidelines for Print and Web Media can be reviewed at:

www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/publications/infores/pubguidelines/welcome.html.

The applicant should also describe the dissemination plan for the products or services. Applicants should provide recommendations for dissemination of any products. If those recommendations include nontraditional groups, such as organizations or agencies not likely to be included in a victim assistance or criminal

justice mailing list, then applicants should be prepared to provide specific names and contact information. In most instances, publications that have been reviewed, revised by the grantee, and subsequently approved for publication by OVC will be printed by OVC and disseminated through the OVC Resource Center at the expense of OVC. Most publications also will be uploaded to the OVC Web page.

Capabilities and Competencies: Applications must include a clear description of
the applicant's management structure and, if the application is for continuation
funding, must document the organization's success in implementing previous phases
of the project. Applicants must include a description of the current and proposed
professional staff members' unique qualifications that will enable them to fulfill their
grant responsibilities.

Applicants must describe how the program will be managed and include an organizational chart or information describing the roles and responsibilities of key organizational and functional components and personnel. Applicants must also include a list of personnel responsible for managing and implementing the major stages of the project. If additional staff will be hired to complete the project, the applicant should identify the selection criteria. Applicants should also provide detailed information about staff members who have committed to work on the project contingent upon receipt of funding.

• Plan for Collecting the Data Required for This Solicitation's Performance Measures: Evaluation is critical to ensure that each OVC project is operating as designed and achieving its goals and objectives. Accordingly, each application must provide a plan to assess the project's effectiveness and to evaluate accomplishment of project goals and objectives. If the application is for continuation funding, applicants should describe how they will assess performance in attaining the previously identified outcomes, and additional outcomes identified for the continuation phase of the project. Goals and objectives must be clearly stated, links must be established between program activities and objectives, and performance measures must be identified. Data must be provided on the performance measures established for this solicitation.

The evaluation plan should identify all resources that will be devoted to conducting the assessment, including identification of staff members and staff time, use of outside consultants to assist with the assessment, and any other support costs associated with conducting an evaluation. Assessment information will be submitted as part of the semiannual progress report, as well as part of the final report due within 90 days of project completion.

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

#### a. Budget Detail Worksheet

A sample Budget Detail Worksheet can be found at <a href="https://www.oip.gov/funding/forms/budget\_detail.pdf">www.oip.gov/funding/forms/budget\_detail.pdf</a>. Applicants that submit their budget in a different format should include the budget categories listed in the sample Budget Detail Worksheet.

For questions pertaining to budget and examples of allowable and unallowable costs, see the OJP Financial Guide at <a href="https://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/financialguide/index.htm">www.ojp.usdoj.gov/financialguide/index.htm</a>.

#### b. Budget Narrative

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

Applicants should demonstrate in their Budget Narratives how they will maximize cost effectiveness of grant expenditures. Budget Narratives should demonstrate 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 with the information and figures provided in the Budget Detail Worksheet. The narrative should explain how the applicant estimated and calculated <u>all</u> costs, and how they are relevant to the completion of the proposed project. The narrative may include tables for clarification purposes but need not be in a spreadsheet format. As with the Budget Detail Worksheet, the Budget Narrative should be broken down by year.

#### 5. Indirect Cost Rate Agreement

Indirect costs are allowed only if the applicant has a federally approved indirect cost rate. (This requirement does not apply to units of local government.) Attach a copy of the federally approved indirect cost rate agreement to the application. Applicants that do not have an approved rate may request one through their cognizant federal agency, which will review all documentation and approve a rate for the applicant organization, or, if the applicant's accounting system permits, costs may be allocated in the direct cost categories. If DOJ is the cognizant federal agency, obtain information needed to submit an indirect cost rate proposal at <a href="https://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/pdfs/indirect\_costs.pdf">www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/pdfs/indirect\_costs.pdf</a>.

#### 6. Tribal Authorizing Resolution

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

Applicants that are unable to submit with the application a fully executed (i.e., signed) copy of appropriate legal documentation, as described above, consistent with the applicable tribe's governance structure, should, at minimum, submit an unsigned, draft version of such legal documentation as part of its application (except in cases where,

with respect to a tribal consortium applicant, consortium bylaws allow action without the support of all consortium member tribes). If selected for funding, OVC will make use of and access to funds contingent on receipt of the fully executed legal documentation.

#### 7. Additional Attachments

Additional attachments that may be required in connection with an award are available on OJP's funding page at <a href="https://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/forms.htm">www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/forms.htm</a>.

For successful applicants, receipt of funds may be contingent upon submission of all necessary forms. Please note in particular the following forms:

a. Applicant Disclosure of Pending Applications: Applicants are to disclose whether they have pending applications for federally funded assistance that include requests for funding to support the same project being proposed under this solicitation <u>and</u> will cover the identical cost items outlined in the budget narrative and worksheet in the application under this solicitation. The disclosure should include both direct applications for federal funding (e.g., applications to federal agencies) and indirect applications for such funding (e.g., applications to state agencies that will be subawarding federal funds).

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

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

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

Federal or State Funding Agency	Solicitation Name/Project Name	Name/Phone/E-mail for Point of Contact at Funding Agency
DOJ/COPS	COPS Hiring Program	Jane Doe, 202/000-0000; jane.doe@usdoj.gov
HHS/Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration	Drug Free Communities Mentoring Program/ North County Youth Mentoring Program	John Doe, 202/000-0000; john.doe@hhs.gov

#### 8. Other Standard Forms

a. Standard Assurances\*

Applicants must read, certify, and submit this form in GMS prior to the receipt of any award funds.

- b. <u>Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements</u>.
   Applicants must read, certify, and submit in GMS prior to the receipt of any award funds.
- c. Accounting System and Financial Capability Questionnaire
  Any applicant (other than an individual) that is a non-governmental entity and that
  has not received any award from OJP within the past 3 years must download,
  complete, and submit this form.

\*These OJP Standard Assurances and Certifications are forms that applicants accept in GMS. They are not additional forms to be uploaded at the time of application submission.

#### **Selection Criteria**

- 1. Statement of the Problem (15%)
- 2. Project Design and Implementation (25%)
- 3. Capabilities and Competencies (25%)
- 4. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures (10%)
- Budget: complete, cost effective, and allowable (e.g., reasonable, allocable, necessary for project activities). Budget Narratives should generally demonstrate how applicants will maximize cost effectiveness of grant expenditures. Budget Narratives should demonstrate cost effectiveness in relation to potential alternatives and the goals of the project.<sup>1</sup> (25%)

#### **Review Process**

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

Peer reviewers will review the applications submitted under this solicitation that meet basic minimum requirements. OVC may use either internal peer reviewers, external peer reviewers, or a combination, to review the applications. An external peer reviewer is an expert in the subject matter of a given solicitation who is NOT a current DOJ employee. An internal reviewer is a current DOJ employee who is well-versed or has expertise in the subject matter of this solicitation. A peer review panel will evaluate, score, and rate applications that meet basic minimum requirements. Peer reviewers' ratings and any resulting recommendations are advisory only. In addition to peer review ratings, considerations for award recommendations and decisions may include, but are not limited to, underserved populations, geographic diversity, strategic priorities, past performance, and available funding.

The Office of the Chief Financial Officer, in consultation with OVC, reviews applications for potential discretionary awards to evaluate the fiscal integrity and financial capability of applicants, examines proposed costs to determine if the budget detail worksheet and budget narrative accurately explain project costs, and determines whether costs are reasonable, necessary, and allowable under applicable federal cost principles and agency regulations.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</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 cost.

Absent explicit statutory authorization or written delegation of authority to the contrary, all final award decisions will be made by the AAG, who may consider factors including, but not limited to, underserved populations, geographic diversity, strategic priorities, past performance, and available funding when making awards.

#### **Additional Requirements**

Applicants selected for awards must agree to comply with additional legal requirements upon acceptance of an award. OJP encourages applicants to review the information pertaining to these additional requirements prior to submitting an application. Additional information for each requirement can be found at <a href="www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/other">www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/other</a> requirements.htm.

- Civil Rights Compliance
- Civil Rights Compliance Specific to State Administering Agencies
- Faith-Based and Other Community Organizations
- Confidentiality
- Research and the Protection of Human Subjects
- Anti-Lobbying Act
- Financial and Government Audit Requirements
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- DOJ Information Technology Standards (if applicable)
- Single Point of Contact Review
- Non-Supplanting of State or Local Funds
- Criminal Penalty for False Statements
- Compliance with the <u>OJP Financial Guide</u>
- Suspension or Termination of Funding
- Nonprofit Organizations
- For-profit Organizations
- Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA)
- Rights in Intellectual Property

- Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA)
- Awards in Excess of \$5,000,000—Federal Taxes Certification Requirement
- Policy and Guidance for Conference Approval, Planning, and Reporting
- OJP Training Guiding Principles for Grantees and Subgrantees

#### **How To Apply**

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

**Note:** OVC encourages all prospective applicants to sign up for Grants.gov e-mail notifications regarding this solicitation. If this solicitation is cancelled or modified, individuals who sign up for e-mail updates at <a href="https://www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a> will be notified.

All applicants are required to complete the following steps:

- 1. Acquire a DUNS number. In general, the Office of Management and Budget requires that all applicants (other than individuals) for federal funds include a DUNS number in their applications for a new award or a supplement to an existing award. A DUNS number is a unique nine-digit sequence recognized as the universal standard for identifying and differentiating entities receiving federal funds. The identifier is used for tracking purposes and to validate address and point of contact information for federal assistance applicants, recipients, and sub-recipients. The DUNS number will be used throughout the grant life cycle. Obtaining a DUNS number is a free, one-time activity. Call Dun and Bradstreet at 866–705–5711 to obtain a DUNS number or apply online at <a href="https://www.dnb.com">www.dnb.com</a>. A DUNS number is usually received within 1–2 business days.
- 2. Acquire registration with the System for Award Management (SAM). SAM replaces the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database as the repository for standard information about federal financial assistance applicants, recipients, and sub-recipients. OJP requires all applicants (other than individuals) for federal financial assistance to maintain current registrations in the SAM database. Applicants must be registered in SAM to successfully register in Grants.gov. (Previously, organizations that had submitted applications via Grants.gov were registered with CCR, as it was a requirement for Grants.gov registration. SAM registration replaces CCR as a pre-requisite for

Grants.gov registration.) Applicants must **update or renew their SAM registration annually** to maintain an active status.

Applicants that were previously registered in the CCR database must, at a minimum:

- Create a SAM account.
- Log in to SAM and migrate permissions to the SAM account (all the entity registrations and records should already be migrated).

Applicants that were not previously registered in the CCR database must register in SAM prior to registering in Grants.gov. Information about SAM registration procedures can be accessed at <a href="https://www.sam.gov">www.sam.gov</a>.

- Acquire an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) and a Grants.gov
  username and password. Complete the AOR profile on Grants.gov and create a
  username and password. The applicant organization's DUNS number must be used to
  complete this step. For more information about the registration process, go to
  www.grants.gov/applicants/get\_registered.jsp.
- 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. 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 CFDA #16.582 titled OVC FY 2013 National Joint Training Conference for VOCA Victim Assistance and Victim Compensation Administrators and the funding opportunity number is OVC-2013-3498.
- 6. Complete the Disclosure of Lobbying Activities. All applicants must complete this information. Applicants that expend any funds for lobbying activities must provide the detailed information requested on the Disclosure of Lobbying Activities form (SF-LLL). Applicants that do not expend any funds for lobbying activities should enter "N/A" in the required highlighted fields.
- 7. Submit an 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 an e-mail validation message from Grants.gov. The message will state whether the application has been received and validated, or rejected due to errors, with an explanation. <a href="Important">Important</a>: OJP urges applicants to submit applications at least 72 hours prior of 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.

Note: Grants.gov only permits the use of specific characters in names of attachment files. Valid file names may only include the following characters: A-Z, a-z, 0-9, underscore ( ), hyphen (-), space, and period. Grants.gov will forward the application to OJP's Grants Management System (GMS). GMS does not accept executable file types as application attachments. These disallowed file types include, but are not limited to, the following

extensions: ".com," ".bat," ".exe," ".vbs," ".cfg," ".dat," ".db," ".dbf," ".dll," ".ini," ".log," ".ora," ".sys," and ".zip."

#### **Note: Duplicate Applications**

If an applicant submits multiple versions of an application, OVC will review the most recent version submitted.

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

Applicants that experience unforeseen Grants.gov technical issues beyond their control that prevent them from submitting their application by the deadline must e-mail the OVC contact identified in the Contact Information section on the cover page within 24 hours after the application deadline and request approval to submit their application. The e-mail must describe the technical difficulties, and include a timeline of the applicant's submission efforts, the complete grant application, the applicant's DUNS number, and any Grants.gov Help Desk or SAM tracking number(s). Note: OVC does not automatically approve requests. After the program office reviews the submission and contacts the Grants.gov or SAM Help Desks to validate the reported technical issues, OJP will inform the applicant whether the request to submit a late application has been approved or denied. If the technical issues reported cannot be validated, OJP will reject the application as untimely.

The following conditions are <u>not</u> valid reasons to permit late submissions: failure to register in sufficient time, failure to follow Grants.gov instructions on how to register and apply as posted on its Web site, failure to follow each instruction in the OJP solicitation, and technical issues with the applicant's computer or information technology environment, including firewalls.

Notifications regarding known technical problems with Grants.gov, if any, are posted at the top of the OJP funding Web page at <a href="www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/solicitations.htm">www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/solicitations.htm</a>.

#### Provide Feedback to OJP on This Solicitation

To assist OJP in improving its application and award processes, we encourage applicants to provide feedback on this solicitation, the application submission process, and/or the application review/peer review process. Feedback may be provided to <a href="mailto:OJPSolicitationFeedback@usdoj.gov">OJPSolicitationFeedback@usdoj.gov</a>.

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

If you are interested in being a reviewer for other OJP grant applications, please e-mail your resume to <a href="mailto:ojppeerreview@lmbps.com">ojppeerreview@lmbps.com</a>. The OJP Solicitation Feedback e-mail account will not forward your resume. **Note:** Neither you nor anyone else from your organization can be a peer reviewer in a competition in which you or your organization have submitted an application.

#### **Application Checklist**

### OVC FY 2013 National Joint Training Conference for VOCA Victim Assistance and Victim Compensation Administrators

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

**Eligibility Requirement:** Applicants are limited to national associations, private nonprofit organizations (including tribal nonprofit organizations), faith-based and community-based organizations, colleges or universities (including tribal institutions of higher education), public agencies, and tribal organizations and federally recognized Indian tribal governments as determined by the Secretary of the Interior, that can demonstrate knowledge and understanding of VOCA assistance administration programs, and possess the staff, resources, and capability to plan and implement a national training conference for approximately 250 VOCA assistance and compensation administrators, staff, and board members.

The federal amount requested is within the allowa	able limit of \$150,000.
What an Application Should Include:	
Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)	(see page 7)
Abstract	(see page 7)
Program Narrative	(see page 7)
Budget Detail Worksheet	(see page 9)
Budget Narrative	(see page 10)
Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL)	(see page 15)
Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)	(see page 10)
Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable)	(see page 10)
Additional Attachments	(see page 11)
Disclosure of Pending Applications	(see page 11)
Other Standard Forms as applicable (see page 1	11), including:
Accounting System and Financial Capat	oility Questionnaire (if applicable)