Office of Justice Programs
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

OMB No. 1121-0329



The <u>U.S. Department of Justice</u> (DOJ), <u>Office of Justice Programs</u> (OJP), <u>Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention</u> (OJJDP) is pleased to announce that it is seeking applications for funding under its FY 2012 VOCA Training and Technical Assistance for Child Abuse Professionals Program. This program furthers the Department's mission by providing funding for the development and implementation of a model technical assistance and training program for child abuse professionals and to improve the judicial system's handling of child abuse and neglect cases.

OJJDP FY 2012 VOCA Training and Technical Assistance for Child Abuse Professionals

Eligibility

Eligible applicants are limited to nonprofit and for-profit organizations (including tribal nonprofit and for-profit organizations), and institutions of higher education (including tribal institutions of higher education). For-profit organizations must agree to forgo any profit or management fee. (See Eligibility, page 3.)

Deadline

Applicants must register with <u>Grants.gov</u> prior to submitting an application. (See How To Apply, page 10.) All applications are due by 11:59 p.m. eastern time on May 15, 2012. (See Deadlines: Registration and Application, page 3.)

Contact Information

For technical assistance with submitting an application, contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, or via e-mail to support@grants.gov. **Note:** Hotline hours of operation are 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except federal holidays.

For assistance with any other requirements of this solicitation, contact the Justice Information Center (JIC) at 1–877–927–5657, via e-mail to <u>JIC@telesishq.com</u>, or by <u>live Web chat</u>. JIC hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. eastern time, Monday through Friday, and 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. eastern time on the solicitation close date.

Grants.gov number assigned to this announcement: OJJDP-2012-3243

Release Date: March 28, 2012

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OJJDP FY 2012 VOCA Training and Technical Assistance for Child Abuse Professionals (CFDA #16.758)

Overview

This program will provide funding for the development and implementation of model technical assistance and training for child abuse professionals and to improve the judicial system's handling of child abuse and neglect cases. The purpose of this program is to improve the coordinated multidisciplinary investigation and response to child abuse. This program is authorized under the Victims of Child Abuse (VOCA) Act 42 U.S.C. Section 13001 et. seq.

Deadlines: Registration and Application

Applicants must register with Grants.gov prior to submitting an application. OJP encourages applicants to register several weeks before the application submission deadline. In addition, applicants are urged to submit applications at least 72 hours prior to the due date of the application to allow time to receive the validation message and to correct any problems that may have caused a rejection notification. The deadline to apply for funding under this announcement is 11:59 p.m. eastern time on May 15, 2012. See How To Apply, page 10, for details.

Eligibility

Eligible applicants are limited to nonprofit and for-profit organizations (including tribal nonprofit and for-profit organizations), and institutions of higher education (including tribal institutions of higher education). For-profit organizations must agree to forgo any profit or management fee.

OJJDP welcomes joint applications from two or more eligible applicants; however, one applicant must be clearly indicated as the primary applicant (for correspondence, award, and management purposes) and the others indicated as co-applicants.

Program-Specific Information

Purpose

The successful applicant will develop and operate a model national training and technical assistance program for child abuse professionals to enhance the coordinated multidisciplinary investigation and response to child abuse and to improve the judicial system's handling of child abuse and neglect cases. The successful applicant will provide training and technical assistance, develop and disseminate publications, and promote methods to provide project assessment and increase coordination among VOCA programs.

Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables

The program's goal is to enhance the coordinated multidisciplinary investigation and response to child abuse. The VOCA Act directs that grants made with VOCA funding assist, train, and teach community agencies and professionals responding to child abuse through coordinated

multidisciplinary programs that address child maltreatment. Under the VOCA Act, a national organization to which a grant is made shall develop and provide model training and technical assistance; this includes information regarding improved child interview techniques, thorough investigative methods, interagency coordination, and effective presentation of evidence in court. In addition, grant recipients must coordinate their efforts with other VOCA programs that OJJDP will identify.

To achieve its goal, OJJDP has established the following objectives to support:

- training opportunities for child abuse response professionals.
- technical assistance efforts for child abuse response professionals.
- publications and resources for child abuse response professionals.
- coordination among VOCA programs.

The successful applicant will design and implement the following activities to achieve the above objectives:

- training sessions (onsite, cross-site, telephone, Web-based, etc.) for child abuse
 professionals at the local, state, regional, and national levels. The applicant will propose the
 topics, types, quantity, duration, audiences, timing, and means of delivery of training,
 identifying trainers with relevant expertise and audiences with significant need. The
 applicant will include plans for evaluating training sessions to include measuring changes in
 participants' knowledge, attitude, and behavior.
- technical assistance at the state and local levels for child abuse professionals to enhance
 the coordinated multidisciplinary response to child abuse and to improve the judicial
 system's handling of child abuse and neglect cases. Applicants should assess the state of
 the field and propose criteria for deciding in which communities to devote project resources.
- publications and resources to enhance the coordinated multidisciplinary response to child abuse. The applicant will indicate the topics, types, quantity, audiences, and production schedule for proposed publications, identifying the authors and contributors. The applicant will create a plan to disseminate publications and measure their impact, at a minimum, collecting data on the number disseminated and the number of times online versions are accessed and the types of users.
- methods to provide ongoing project assessment relating to training and technical assistance.
- methods to increase coordination among VOCA programs.

OJJDP will assign major tasks and deliverables under this solicitation based on a review of the successful application.

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Evidence-based Programs or Practices

OJP considers programs and practices to be evidence-based when their effectiveness has been demonstrated by causal evidence (generally obtained through one or more outcome evaluations). Causal evidence documents a relationship between an activity or intervention (including technology) and its intended outcome, including measuring the direction and size of a change, and the extent to which a change may be attributed to the activity or intervention. Causal evidence depends on the use of scientific methods to rule out, to the extent possible, alternative explanations for the documented change. The strength of causal evidence, based on the factors described above, will influence the degree to which OJP considers a program or practice to be evidence-based. OJP's CrimeSolutions.gov and OJJDP's Model Program Guide Web sites are two resources that applicants may use to find information about evidence-based programs in criminal justice, juvenile justice, and crime victim services.

Amount and Length of Awards

OJJDP will make one award for as much as \$1 million for 1 year. Second and third year funding will be made based upon performance and availability of funds. All awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and to any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by law.

OJJDP will enter into a cooperative agreement with the successful applicant. In furtherance of the goals and objectives described above, OJJDP's role will include the following tasks:

- reviewing and approving major work plans, including changes to such plans, and key decisions pertaining to project operations.
- reviewing and approving major project-generated documents and materials used in the provision of project services.
- providing guidance in significant project planning meetings and participating in projectsponsored training events or conferences.

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, federal funds may not be used to pay total cash compensation (salary plus bonuses) to any employee of the award recipient at a rate that exceeds 110% 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 www.opm.gov/oca/12tables/indexSES.asp. Note: A recipient may compensate an employee at a higher 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 limitation on compensation rates allowable under an award may be waived on an individual basis at the discretion of the Assistant Attorney General for OJP. An applicant requesting a waiver should include a detailed justification in the budget narrative of its 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 its budget.

The justification should include the particular qualifications and expertise of the individual, the uniqueness of the service being provided, 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. No OJP funding can be used to purchase food and/or beverages for any meeting, conference, training, or other event. Exceptions to this restriction may be made only in cases where such sustenance is not otherwise available (i.e., extremely remote areas), or where a special presentation at a conference requires a plenary address where there is no other time for sustenance to be obtained. Such an exception would require prior approval from OJP. This restriction 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 impact direct payment of per diem amounts to individuals in a travel status under your organization's travel policy.

Updated Department of Justice and OJP guidance on conference planning, minimization of costs, and conference cost reporting will be forthcoming and will be accessible on the OJP Web site at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/funding.htm.

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 by individuals with limited English proficiency may be allowable costs. 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 (www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/other_requirements.htm).

Match Requirement. This solicitation does not require a match. However, if a successful application proposes a voluntary match amount, the match amount incorporated into the OJP-approved budget becomes mandatory and subject to audit.

Performance Measures

To assist the Department in fulfilling its responsibilities under the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) of 1993, 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. Any award recipient will be required, 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:

Program Goal	Performance Measures	Description	Data Grantees Provide
To improve the coordinated multidisciplinary response to child abuse through training and technical assistance for	The following are mandatory measures for grantees.		OJJDP has an online system (www.ojjdp-dctat.org) for grantee transmittal of performance measures data. For detailed information on specific measures and resources, see OJJDP's Performance Measures Website (www.ojjdp.gov/grantees/pm/).
child abuse response professionals.	Percentage of advocacy centers/ programs implementing an evidence-based program or practice.	Number and percentage of advocacy centers/ programs that implement an evidence-based program or practice. Evidence-based programs and practices include program models that have been shown, through rigorous evaluation and replication, to be effective at preventing or reducing juvenile delinquency or related risk factors, such as substance abuse. Model programs can come from many valid sources (e.g., Blueprints, OJJDP's Model Programs Guide, SAMHSA's Model Programs, State Model Program resources, etc.).	During the reporting period: Number of advocacy centers/programs implementing an evidence-based program or practice. Number of advocacy centers/programs implementing programs.
	Compared to the previous reporting period: Percentage increase in number of planning/ training activities that the center conducted.	This measure represents the number of planning or training activities held during the reporting period. Planning and training activities include creation of task forces or	Number of planning/training activities conducted during the reporting period. Total number of planning/ training activities conducted at the close of the previous reporting period.

	Т	!t	<u> </u>
		interagency	
		committees,	
		meetings held,	
		needs	
		assessments	
		undertaken, etc.	
	Number of program	This measure	Number of center/program materials
	materials developed.	represents the	developed designed to assist in
		number of program	preventing/ reducing the number of
	Number of materials	materials that were	child victims.
	disseminated.	developed during	
		the reporting	Number of materials designed to
		period. Include only	assist in preventing/reducing the
		substantive	number of child victims distributed to
		materials, such as	programs, centers, and staff, etc.
		program overviews,	
		client workbooks,	
		lists of local service	
		providers. Do not	
		include program	
		advertisements or	
		administrative	
		forms, such as	
		sign-in sheets or	
		client tracking	
		forms. Count the	
		number of pieces	
	Doroonto ao of	developed.	Number of staff trained
	Percentage of	This measure	Number of staff trained.
	individuals trained who	represents the	Number of staff subilities is a second
	demonstrate increased	number of people	Number of staff exhibiting increased
	knowledge of the	who exhibit an	knowledge of the program, as
	program area.	increased	measured by a pre- and post-training
		knowledge of the	test.
		program area after	
		participating in	
		training. Use of pre-	
		and post-tests is	
		preferred.	
	Number of policies	This measure	Number of policies changed,
	changed, improved, or	represents the	improved, or rescinded as a result of
	rescinded as a result of	number of cross-	the program.
	the program.	program or agency	
	I	policies or	
1			
		procedures	
		procedures	
		procedures changed, improved,	
		procedures changed, improved, or rescinded during	
		procedures changed, improved, or rescinded during the reporting	
		procedures changed, improved, or rescinded during the reporting period. A policy is a	
		procedures changed, improved, or rescinded during the reporting period. A policy is a plan or specific course of action	
		procedures changed, improved, or rescinded during the reporting period. A policy is a plan or specific course of action that guides the	
		procedures changed, improved, or rescinded during the reporting period. A policy is a plan or specific course of action that guides the general goals and	
		procedures changed, improved, or rescinded during the reporting period. A policy is a plan or specific course of action that guides the general goals and directives of	
		procedures changed, improved, or rescinded during the reporting period. A policy is a plan or specific course of action that guides the general goals and	

polices that are relevant to the topic area of the program or that affect
program operations.

Submission of performance measures data is not required for the application. Instead, applicants should discuss in their application their proposed methods for collecting data for performance measures. Refer to the section What an Application Is Expected To Include on page 12 for additional information.

Project Evaluations

Applicants that propose to use funds awarded through this solicitation to conduct project evaluations or statistical data collections should be aware that these activities (such as systematic investigations designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge) may constitute research, which is defined as follows:

Research means a systematic investigation, including research development, testing, and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge. Activities that meet this definition constitute research for the purposes of this policy, whether or not they are conducted or supported under a program that is considered research for other purposes. For example, some demonstration and service programs may include research activities. 28 C.F.R. § 46.102(d). The following information pertains to applications that propose to conduct research and involves human subjects:

DOJ regulations (28 C.F.R. Part 46) protect the human subjects of federally funded research. In brief, 28 C.F.R. Part 46 requires that most research involving human subjects that is conducted or supported by a federal department or agency be reviewed and approved by an Institutional Review Board (IRB), in accordance with the regulations, before federal funds are expended for that research. As a rule, persons who participate in federally funded research must provide their "informed consent" and must be permitted to terminate their participation at any time. Funding recipients, before they will be allowed to spend OJP funds on any research activity involving human subjects, must submit appropriate documentation to OJP showing compliance with 28 C.F.R. Part 46 requirements, as requested by OJP.

DOJ regulations (28 C.F.R. Part 22) require recipients of OJP funding to submit a Privacy Certificate as a condition of approval of any grant application or contract proposal that contains a research or statistical component under which "information identifiable to a private person" will be collected, analyzed, used, or disclosed. The funding recipient's Privacy Certificate includes a description of its policies and procedures to be followed to protect the confidentiality of identifiable data. 28 C.F.R. § 22.23. The Department's regulations provide, among other matters, that: "Research or statistical information identifiable to a private person may be used only for research or statistical purposes." 28 C.F.R. § 22.21. Moreover, any private person from whom information identifiable to a private person is collected or obtained (either orally or by means of written questionnaire or other document) must be advised that the information will only be used or disclosed for research or statistical purposes and that compliance with the request for information is voluntary and may be terminated at any time. 28 C.F.R. § 22.27.

OJP has developed a decision tree www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/pdfs/decision_tree.pdf to assist applicants in assessing whether an activity they plan to undertake with OJP funds may constitute research involving human subjects. Applicants should review this decision tree and include a specific statement in their application narrative that clarifies if they intend to use any information from a project evaluation or data collection to contribute to "generalizeable knowledge" or if they intend to use the information solely for the purpose of internal improvements and/or to meet OJP's performance measures data reporting requirements. If an application includes a research, demonstration evaluation, or statistical data collection component, OJP will examine that component to determine whether it meets the definition of research.

For additional information visit the "Research and Protection of Human Subjects" and the "Confidentiality" sections of the OJP "Other Requirements" Web page at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/other_requirements.htm.

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 subawards 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 subrecipients. 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 subawards will be made through the FFATA Subaward Reporting System (FSRS), found at www.fsrs.gov.

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

How To Apply

Applications will be submitted through Grants.gov. Grants.gov is a "one-stop storefront" that provides a unified process for all customers of federal awards to find funding opportunities and apply for funding. Complete instructions on how to register and submit an application can be found at www.Grants.gov. If the applicant experiences technical difficulties at any point during this process, call the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, or via e-mail to support@grants.gov, 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 up to several weeks for first-time registrants to receive confirmation and a user password. OJP highly recommends that applicants start the registration process as early as possible to prevent delays in submitting an application package by the specified application deadline.

All applicants are required to complete the following steps:

 Acquire a Data Universal Numbering System (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 renewal of an existing award. A DUNS number is a unique nine-digit sequence recognized as the universal standard for identifying and keeping track of 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 subrecipients. The DUNS number will be used throughout the grant life cycle. Obtaining a DUNS number is a free, one-time activity. Obtain a DUNS number by calling Dun and Bradstreet at 866–705–5711 or by applying online at www.dnb.com. A DUNS number is usually received within 1-2 business days.

- 2. Acquire or renew registration with the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database. OJP requires that all applicants (other than individuals) for federal financial assistance maintain current registrations in the CCR database. An applicant must be registered in the CCR to successfully register in Grants.gov. The CCR database is the repository for standard information about federal financial assistance applicants, recipients, and subrecipients. Organizations that have previously submitted applications via Grants.gov are already registered with CCR, as it is a requirement for Grants.gov registration. Note, however, that applicants must update or renew their CCR registration annually to maintain an active status. Information about CCR registration procedures can be accessed at www.ccr.gov.
- 3. Acquire an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) and a Grants.gov username and password. Complete the AOR profile on Grants.gov and create a username and password. 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 there can be more than one AOR for the organization.
- 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 number for this solicitation is 16.758, titled "Improving the Investigation and Prosecution of Child Abuse and the Regional and Local Children's Advocacy Centers," and the funding opportunity number is OJJDP-2012-3243.
- **6. Complete the Disclosure of Lobbying Activities.** All applicants must complete this information. An applicant that expends any funds for lobbying activities must provide the detailed information requested on the form, *Disclosure of Lobbying Activities*, (SF-LLL). An applicant that does 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 validation message will state whether the application has been received and validated, or rejected, with an explanation. Important: Applicants are urged to submit applications at least 72 hours prior to the due date of the application to allow time to receive the validation message and to correct any problems that may have caused a rejection notification.

Note: 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, OJJDP will review the most recent version submitted.

Experiencing Unforeseen Grants.gov Technical Issues

If an applicant experiences unforeseen Grants.gov technical issues beyond the applicant's control that prevent submission of its application by the deadline, the applicant must email the Justice Information Center (see Page 1 for contact information) within 24 hours after the application deadline and request approval to submit its application. The applicant must include in the e-mail: a description of the technical difficulties, a timeline of submission efforts, the complete grant application, the applicant DUNS number, and Grants.gov Help Desk tracking number(s) the applicant has received. Note: Requests are not automatically approved by OJJDP. After the program office reviews all of the information submitted, and contacts the Grants.gov Help Desk to validate the technical issues reported, OJP will contact the applicant to either approve or deny the request to submit a late application. If the technical issues reported cannot be validated, the application will be rejected as untimely.

To ensure a fair competition for limited discretionary funds, the following conditions are <u>not</u> valid reasons to permit late submissions: (1) failure to begin the registration process in sufficient time, (2) failure to follow Grants.gov instructions on how to register and apply as posted on its Web site, (3) failure to follow all of the instructions in the OJP solicitation, and (4) technical issues experienced 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 www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/solicitations.htm.

What an Application Is Expected To Include

Applicants should anticipate that failure to submit an application that contains all of the specified elements may negatively affect the review of the application; and, should a decision be made to make an award, it may result in the inclusion of special conditions that preclude access to or use of award funds pending satisfaction of the conditions.

Moreover, applicants should anticipate that applications that are unresponsive to the scope of the solicitation, or that do not include application elements designated by OJJDP to be critical, will neither proceed to peer review nor receive further consideration. Under this solicitation, OJJDP has designated the following application elements as critical: Program Narrative, Budget Detail Worksheet, and Budget Narrative.

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 standard form used as a cover sheet for submission of pre-applications, applications, and related information. Grants.gov and 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). Instructions on completing the SF 424 are available at www.grants.gov/assets/SF424Instructions.pdf.

2. Program Narrative

Applicants must submit a program narrative that presents a detailed description of the purpose, goals, objectives, strategies, design, and management of the proposed program. The program narrative should be double-spaced with 1-inch margins, not exceeding 30 pages of 8½ by 11 inches, and use a standard 12-point font, preferably Times New Roman. Pages should be numbered "1 of 30," etc. The project abstract, tables, charts, pictures, etc., including all captions, legends, keys, subtext, etc., may be single-spaced, and will count in the 30-page limit. Material required under the "Budget and Budget Narrative" and "Additional Attachments" sections will not count toward the program narrative page count. Applicants may provide bibliographical references as a separate attachment that will not count toward the 30-page program narrative limit. If the program narrative fails to comply with these length-related restrictions, noncompliance may be considered in peer review and in final award decisions.

The program narrative should address the following selection criteria: (1) project abstract; (2) statement of the problem; (3) goals, objectives, and performance measures: (4) program design and implementation; and (5) capabilities/competencies. The applicant should clearly delineate the connections between and among each of these sections. For example, the applicant should derive the goals and objectives directly from the problems to be addressed. Similarly, the project design section should clearly explain how the program's structure and activities will accomplish the goals and objectives identified in the previous section.

The following sections should be included as part of the program narrative.

a. Project Abstract. Applicants should include a project abstract as the first page of the program narrative, and it is included in the page limitation specified above. The abstract should not exceed 200 words and briefly describe the project's purpose, identify the population to be served, and summarize the activities that the applicant will implement to achieve the project's goals and objectives. These goals and objectives should focus on short-term and intermediate outcomes (see Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures, below). The abstract should describe how the applicant will measure progress toward these goals.

Permission to Share Abstract and Contact Information with Private Funders. It is unlikely that OJJDP will be able to fund all competitive applications the Office receives, but may have the opportunity to share unfunded competitive application information with private foundations. Applicants should indicate whether they give OJJDP permission to share their abstract and contact information for both the authorized representative and point of contact with potentially interested private foundations. Granting this permission will not affect OJJDP's funding recommendations, and if the application is not funded, it

will not guarantee that information will be shared, nor does it guarantee funding from any other source.

b. Statement of the Problem. Applicants should briefly describe the need for technical assistance and training for child abuse professionals. The applicant should use data to provide evidence that the need for training and technical assistance exists.

Applicants should describe any previous or current experience with implementing training and technical assistance for child abuse professionals and multidisciplinary investigation and response to child abuse. Applicants should describe any current publications they have developed on multidisciplinary investigation and response to child abuse.

c. Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures. Applicants should describe the goals of the proposed program and identify its objectives. When formulating the program's goals and objectives, applicants should be cognizant of the performance measures that OJJDP will require successful applicants to provide.

Goals. Applicants should describe the program's intent to change, reduce, or eliminate the problem noted in the previous section and outline the project's goals.

Program Objectives. Applicants should explain how the program will accomplish its goals. Objectives are specific, quantifiable statements of the project's desired results. They should be clearly linked to the problem identified in the preceding section and measurable.

Performance Measures. OJJDP requires award recipients to report data in support of mandated performance measures for this solicitation (see Performance Measures, page 6.) OJJDP does not require applicants to submit performance measures data with their applications. For the application, applicants should indicate an understanding of these requirements and discuss how they will gather the required data, should they receive funding.

OJJDP encourages award recipients to use information from existing program records to fulfill performance measures reporting requirements rather than initiating new data collection activities for this purpose.

d. Project Design and Implementation. Applicants should detail how the training and technical assistance program will operate throughout the funding period and describe the strategies that they will use to achieve the goals and objectives identified in the previous section. Applicants should describe how they will complete the deliverables stated in the Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables section on page 3. Applicants are encouraged to incorporate evidence-based strategies in the training curriculums.

Timeline. Applicants should submit a realistic timeline or milestone chart that indicates major tasks associated with the goals and objectives of the project, assigns responsibility for each, and plots completion of each task by month or quarter for the duration of the award, using "Year 1," "Month 1," "Quarter 1," etc., not calendar dates (see "Sample Project Timelines" at ojjdp.gov/grantees/timelines.html).

Applicants should submit the timeline as a separate attachment, as stipulated in Additional Attachments, page 15. On receipt of an award, the award recipient may revise the timeline, based on training and technical assistance that OJJDP will provide.

e. Capabilities and Competencies. Applicants should describe the roles and responsibilities of project staff and explain the program's organizational structure and operations. Management and staffing patterns should be clearly connected to the project design described in the previous section. This section should describe the experience and capability of the applicant's organization and any contractors that the applicant will use to implement and manage this effort and its associated federal funding, highlighting any previous experience implementing projects of similar design or magnitude.

The VOCA Act states that an organization to which a grant is made shall provide training and technical assistance that includes information regarding improved child interview techniques, thorough investigative methods, interagency coordination, and effective presentation of evidence in court.

Memoranda of Understanding. If submitting a joint application, as described under Eligibility, page 3, applicants should provide signed and dated memoranda of understanding for all key partners that include the following:

- expression of support for the program and a statement of willingness to participate and collaborate with it
- description of the partner's current role and responsibilities in the planning process and expected responsibilities when the program is operational
- estimate of the percent of time that the partner will devote to the planning and operation of the project.

3. Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative

Applicants should provide a budget that (1) is complete, allowable, and cost-effective in relation to the proposed activities; (2) shows the cost calculations demonstrating how they arrived at the total amount requested; and (3) provides a brief supporting narrative to link costs with project activities. The budget should cover the entire award period.

For questions pertaining to budget and examples of allowable and unallowable costs, see the OJP Financial Guide at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/financialguide/index.htm.

- a. Budget Detail Worksheet. A sample Budget Detail Worksheet can be found at www.ojp.gov/funding/forms/budget_detail.pdf. Applicants who submit the budget in a different format should include the budget categories listed in the sample budget worksheet. The budget detail worksheet should be mathematically sound.
- b. Budget Narrative. The Budget Narrative should thoroughly and clearly describe every category of expense listed in the Budget Detail Worksheet. Proposed budgets are expected to be complete, reasonable and allowable, cost-effective, and necessary for project activities. The narrative should be mathematically sound and correspond with the information and figures the applicant provides in the Budget Detail Worksheet. The narrative should explain how the applicant estimated and calculated all 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.

4. Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)

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.) A copy of the rate approval should be attached. If the applicant does not have an approved rate, one can be requested by contacting the applicant's 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 www.oip.usdoj.gov/funding/pdfs/indirect_costs.pdf.

5. Additional Attachments

Applicants should submit the following information, as stipulated in the cited pages, as attachments to their application. While the materials listed below are not assigned specific point values, peer reviewers will, as appropriate, consider these items when rating applications. For example, reviewers will consider résumés and/or letters of support/ memoranda of understanding when assessing "Capabilities/Competencies." Peer reviewers will not consider any additional information that the applicant submits other than that specified below.

- timeline or milestone chart (see Timeline, page 14)
- résumés of all key personnel
- job descriptions outlining roles and responsibilities for all key positions
- memoranda of understanding from partner organizations (see Memoranda of Understanding, page 14)
- evidence of nonprofit status, e.g., a copy of the tax exemption letter from the Internal Revenue Service
- evidence of for-profit status, e.g., a copy of the articles of incorporation.

6. Other Standard Forms

Additional forms that may be required in connection with an award are available on OJP's funding page at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/forms.htm. For successful applicants, receipt of funds may be contingent upon submission of all necessary forms. Note in particular the following forms.

a. <u>Standard Assurances</u>. Applicants must read, certify, and submit this form in GMS prior to the receipt of any award funds.

- **b.** Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements. Applicants must read, certify, and submit in GMS prior to the receipt of any award funds.
- **c.** Accounting System and Financial Capability Questionnaire. (Required for 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; this form must be downloaded, completed, and submitted.)

Selection Criteria

The following five selection criteria will be used to evaluate each application, with the different weight given to each based on the percentage value listed after each individual criteria. For example, the first criteria, Statement of the Problem, is worth 20 percent of the entire score in the application review process.

- 1. Statement of the Problem (15 percent)
- 2. Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures (10 percent)
- 3. Program Design and Implementation (40 percent)
- 4. Capabilities and Competencies (20 percent)
- 5. Budget (complete; reasonable and allowable; cost-effective; and necessary for project activities) (15 percent)

See What an Application Is Expected To Include, page 12, for the criteria that the peer reviewers will use to evaluate applications.

Review Process

OJP is committed to ensuring a fair and open process for awarding grants. OJJDP 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. OJJDP may use either internal peer reviewers, external peer reviewers, or a combination, to review the applications under this solicitation. 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. Applications that meet basic minimum requirements will be evaluated, scored, and rated by a peer review panel. 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 OJJDP, conducts a financial review of 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.

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 also may give consideration to 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 strongly 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 www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/other_requirements.htm.

- Civil Rights Compliance
- 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 <u>Office of Justice Programs 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 (FFATA) of 2006
- Awards in Excess of \$5,000,000 Federal Taxes Certification Requirement

• Active CCR Registration

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, application submission process, and/or the application review/peer review process. Feedback can be provided to OJPSolicitationFeedback@usdoj.gov.

Appendix: Application Checklist

OJJDP FY 2012 VOCA Training and Technical Assistance for Child Abuse Professionals

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

Eligibility Requirement:
Nonprofit and for-profit organization, including tribal nonprofit and for-profit organizationInstitution of higher education, including tribal institution of higher education
The federal amount requested is within the allowable limit of \$1 million.
What an Application Should Include:
Disclosure of Lobbying Activities, (SF-LLL) (see page 11)Application for Federal Assistance (SF 424) (see page 12)
Program Narrative (see page 12) Format (double spaced, 12-point standard font, 1" standard margins, narrative is 30 pages or less) Abstract
Statement of the ProblemGoals, Objectives, and Performance MeasuresProgram Design and ImplementationCapabilities/Competencies
Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative (see page 15)Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable) (see page 15)
Additional Attachments (see page 15)timeline or milestone chartrésumés of all key personneljob descriptions for all key positionsmemoranda of understanding from joint applicant partner organizationsevidence of nonprofit status e.g., copy of articles of incorporation, if applicableevidence of for-profit status e.g., copy of tax exemption letter from the Internal Revenue Service, if applicable
Other Standard Forms, Certifications, and Other Components, (see page 16) including: DUNS number CCR registration Certifications
Accounting System and Financial Capability Questionnaire