



The [U.S. Department of Justice](#) (DOJ), [Office of Justice Programs](#) (OJP), [Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention](#) (OJJDP) is seeking applications for funding under its Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 VOCA Regional Children's Advocacy Centers program. This program furthers the Department's mission by supporting and strengthening four regional Children's Advocacy Centers that will deliver training and technical assistance to develop teams, programs, and organizations that respond to child abuse and neglect.

OJJDP FY 2013 VOCA Regional Children's Advocacy Centers Program

Eligibility

Applicants are limited to local public and private nonprofit children's advocacy center agencies and organizations. *For-profit organizations must agree to forgo any profit or management fee.* (See Eligibility, page 3.)

Eligible applicants who propose to provide direct services to youth must not include youth who are age 18 or older in the population they will serve.

Deadline

Applicants must register with [Grants.gov](#) prior to submitting an application. (See How To Apply, page 19.) All applications are due by 11:59 p.m. eastern time on May 29, 2013. (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. 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 JIC@telesishq.com, or by [live Web chat](#). 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.

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OJJDP FY 2013 VOCA Regional Children's Advocacy Centers Program (CFDA #16.758)

Overview

The VOCA Regional Children's Advocacy Centers competitive program supports four Regional Children's Advocacy Centers, one situated within each of the four U.S. Census regions, that (1) develop multidisciplinary teams, local children's advocacy center programs, and state chapter organizations that respond to child abuse and neglect; and (2) deliver training and technical assistance that strengthen existing multidisciplinary teams, child advocacy center programs, and state chapter organizations.

As authorized by the Victims of Child Abuse Act (VOCA Act), the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) first awarded grants in 1995 through a competitive selection process to establish four Regional Children's Advocacy Centers. This program is authorized under the Victims of Child Abuse Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 13001b.

Deadlines: Registration and Application

Applicants must register with Grants.gov to submit an application. OJP encourages applicants to **register several weeks before** the application submission deadline. In addition, OJP urges applicants to submit applications at least **72 hours prior to the 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 29, 2013. See How to Apply, page 19, for details.

Eligibility

OJJDP invites applications from local public and private nonprofit children's advocacy center agencies and organizations that can meet the following requirements:

1. operate a children's advocacy center with current accredited membership status in the National Children's Alliance.
2. support a multidisciplinary staff experienced in providing a broad continuum of coordinated services to child victims of abuse and neglect and nonoffending family members.
3. have a minimum of 5 years experience providing regional or national training and technical assistance to developing or established multidisciplinary teams and children's advocacy centers.
4. have a minimum of 5 years experience providing regional or national training and technical assistance to a wide range of multidisciplinary professionals and others with respect to the judicial handling of child abuse and neglect.

For-profit organizations must agree to forgo any profit or management fee.

Eligible applicants who propose to provide direct services to youth must not include youth who are age 18 or older in the population they will serve.

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 coapplicants.

Program-Specific Information

Purpose

Recognizing a national need to enhance coordination among community agencies and professionals responding to child abuse and neglect, Congress passed the Victims of Child Abuse Act, Section 6 of Public Law 102–586, codified at 42 U.S.C. 13001 et seq., into law in 1992. The Act provides for the establishment of four Regional Children’s Advocacy Centers to provide information, technical assistance, and training to assist communities in establishing facility-based multidisciplinary programs, particularly children’s advocacy centers, that respond to child abuse.

Within a targeted U.S. Census region, the awardee will operate a regional training and technical assistance program to develop and strengthen multidisciplinary team investigations and responses to child abuse, local children’s advocacy centers, and state chapter organizations of children’s advocacy centers.

The states included in each of the four U.S. Census regions are listed below:

- **Northeast Region:** Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont.
- **Southern Region:** Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.
- **Midwest Region:** Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.
- **Western Region:** Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables

The program’s objective is to provide a full complement of training, technical assistance, and information services to developing and established multidisciplinary teams, local children’s advocacy center, and state chapter organizations of children’s advocacy centers.

Pursuant to the VOCA Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 13001, et seq.), the four Regional Children’s Advocacy Centers were established to:

- assist communities in developing child-focused, community-oriented, facility-based programs to improve the resources available to child victims and families.

- provide support for non-offending family members.
- enhance coordination among community agencies and professionals involved in the intervention, prevention, prosecution, and investigation systems that respond to child abuse cases.
- train physicians and other healthcare and mental healthcare professionals in the multidisciplinary approach to child abuse.

Regional Children's Advocacy Centers provide (1) training and technical assistance to assess community readiness and to assist in developing and strengthening the multidisciplinary approach to the investigation, prosecution, and treatment of child abuse cases; (2) increase the number of communities utilizing the children's advocacy center model; and (3) develop and strengthen state chapter organizations of children's advocacy centers.

To achieve its goal, OJJDP has established the following objectives to support multidisciplinary teams that respond to child abuse and neglect, children's advocacy centers, and state chapter organizations of children's advocacy centers:

- providing training opportunities.
- providing technical assistance.
- developing publications and other resources.
- coordinating the activities of VOCA programs.

Consistent with statutory requirements as set forth in 42 USC 13001b(b)(2), the successful applicant will design and implement the following activities to achieve the above objectives by:

- training sessions for multidisciplinary teams, children's advocacy centers, and state chapter organizations of children's advocacy centers. The applicant will propose the topics and type of training, quantity and scale of proposed events, intended audience, and method of delivery of training sessions. The applicant should identify trainers with relevant expertise and audiences with significant need. The applicant should demonstrate areas of specialized expertise and experience in managing large-scale training events. The applicant will include plans for evaluating training sessions to include measuring changes in participants' knowledge, attitude, and behavior.
- technical assistance for multidisciplinary teams, children's advocacy centers, and state chapter organizations of children's advocacy centers. Applicants should provide their assessment of development within the region and proposed criteria for determining jurisdictions where they intend to devote particular project resources.
- publications and other resources to enhance the coordinated multidisciplinary response to child abuse. The applicant will indicate the topics, types, quantity, audiences, and schedule for the proposed publications or other resources, with publication and dissemination at the discretion of OJJDP.
- methods to increase coordination among VOCA programs.

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

Successful operation of the Regional Children's Advocacy Centers program requires significant coordination and collaboration. To achieve the necessary level of coordination, OJJDP will require each of the four successful applicants to work in close partnership with each other and with other programs funded under the VOCA Act. These programs include the National Children's Alliance, the National Children's Advocacy Center, and the National Center for Prosecution of Child Abuse. OJJDP will require each Regional Children's Advocacy Centers awardee to work under a memorandum of understanding outlining the respective roles and responsibilities of each of the VOCA-funded programs.

Attorney General's National Task Force on Children Exposed to Violence

OJJDP is committed to facilitating identification, screening, assessment, and treatment to promote the recovery and well-being of children, youth, and families who have been exposed to violence. In December 2012, the Attorney General's National Task Force on Children Exposed to Violence published a report with more than 50 recommendations to improve the nation's response to children exposed to violence. The report can be found at www.justice.gov/defendingchildhood/cev-rpt-full.pdf. OJJDP encourages applicants to review the report and, when appropriate, include the use of trauma-informed care and training in the project design of programs serving youth and families.

Evidence-based Programs or Practices

OJP strongly emphasizes the use of data and evidence in policy making and program development in criminal justice. OJP is committed to:

- improving the quantity and quality of evidence OJP generates;
- integrating evidence into program, practice, and policy decisions within OJP and the field; and
- improving the translation of evidence into practice.

OJP considers programs and practices to be evidence-based when their effectiveness has been demonstrated by causal evidence, generally obtained through one or more outcome evaluations. Causal evidence documents a relationship between an activity or intervention (including technology) and its intended outcome, including measuring the direction and size of a change, and the extent to which a change may be attributed to the activity or intervention. Causal evidence depends on the use of scientific methods to rule out, to the extent possible, alternative explanations for the documented change. The strength of causal evidence, based on the factors described above, will influence the degree to which OJP considers a program or practice to be evidence-based. 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 expects to make four cooperative agreements of as much as \$1.125 million for a 12-month project period. OJJDP will competitively select one applicant from each of the four U.S.

Census regions (Northeast, South, Midwest, and West). Based on the availability of funds and determination of successful performance, OJJDP may provide continuation funding for as many as two additional 1-year increments.

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

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 to provide project services.
- providing guidance in significant project planning meetings and participating in project sponsored training events or conferences.
- reviewing and approving any proposed solicitation(s) prior to release or publication.

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 www.opm.gov/oca/12tables/indexSES.asp. 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 for OJP may exercise discretion to waive, on an individual basis, the limitation on compensation rates allowable under an award. Applicants requesting a waiver should include a detailed justification in the budget narrative of their applications. Applicants who do not submit a waiver request and justification with their applications should anticipate that OJP will request them to adjust and resubmit their budgets.

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. OJP encourages applicants to review the guidance on conference approval, planning, and reporting that is available on the OJP Web site at www.ojp.gov/funding/confcost.htm. This guidance sets out the current OJP policy, which requires all funding recipients who 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, audio/visual 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 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, 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. OJJDP will require award recipients to submit semiannual performance metrics of relevant data through the Data Reporting Tool (DCTAT) located www.ojjdp-dctat.org/. Performance measures for this solicitation are as follows:

Objective	Performance Measure(s)	Data Grantee Provides
<p>Program Goal: To improve the coordinated multidisciplinary response to child abuse.</p> <p>Objectives include to increase: Training opportunities for multidisciplinary teams, children advocacy centers, and state chapter organizations of children's advocacy centers.</p> <p>Technical assistance efforts for multidisciplinary teams, children's advocacy centers, and state chapter organizations of children's advocacy centers.</p> <p>Publications and resources for multidisciplinary teams, children's advocacy centers, and state chapter organizations of children's advocacy centers.</p> <p>Coordination among Victims of Child Abuse Act programs.</p>	Number of training requests received.	Number of training requests received.
	Number of planning or training events held.	Number of planning or training events held.
	Number of people trained.	Number of people trained.
	Percentage of people exhibiting increased knowledge of the program area.	Number of people (recipients of training/technical assistance) exhibiting increased knowledge of the program area (determined by pre- and post-testing).
	Number of technical assistance requests received.	Number of technical assistance requests received.
	Number of program materials developed.	Number of program 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 Is Expected To Include" on page 11 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 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 an Institutional Review Board, in accordance with the regulations, review and approve most research involving human subjects that any federal

department or agency conducts or supports before an award recipient may expend federal funds 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 statement in their application narrative that clarifies if they intend to use any information from a project evaluation or data collection to contribute to generalizable knowledge or if they intend to use the information solely for 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.

What an Application Is Expected To 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 OJJDP decide 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 some application elements are so critical that applications that do not respond to the scope of the solicitation, do not meet the eligibility requirements, do not request funding within the funding limit, or do not include the application elements that OJJDP has designated 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 or Budget Narrative.

OJP strongly recommends that applicants use appropriately descriptive file names (e.g., "Program Narrative," "Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative," "Timelines," "Memoranda of Understanding," "Resumes") for all attachments. Also, OJP recommends that applicants include resumes 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 pre-applications, applications, and related information. Grants.gov and GMS take information from the applicant's profile to populate the fields on this form. If the applicant is a for-profit entity, select "For-Profit Organization" or "Small Business" (as applicable), when selecting "type of applicant."

2. Abstract

Applications should include a high-quality abstract that summarizes the proposed project in 400 words or less. Abstracts should be:

- written for a general public audience.
- submitted as a separate attachment with "Project Abstract" as part of its file name.
- single-spaced, using a standard 12-point font (Times New Roman) with 1-inch margins.

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

The abstract should include a brief description of the project's purpose, the population to be served, and the activities that the applicant will implement to achieve the project's goals and objectives. The abstract should describe how the applicant will measure progress toward these goals. The abstract should indicate whether any portion of the project budget will be used to conduct research, as described in the Project Evaluations section on page 9.

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

3. 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 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, OJJDP may consider such noncompliance in peer review and in final award decisions.

The program narrative should address the following selection criteria: (1) statement of the problem; (2) goals, objectives, and performance measures; (3) program design and implementation; and (4) 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. **Statement of the Problem.** Applicants should briefly describe the nature and scope of the need the Regional Children’s Advocacy Centers will address. The applicant should use data to provide evidence that the need exists, demonstrate the size and scope of the need, and document the effects of the need on the target population and the larger community. Applicants should describe the target population and any previous or current attempts to address the need.

Applicants should describe any research or evaluation studies that relate to the need and contribute to the applicant’s understanding of its causes and potential solutions. While OJJDP expects applicants to review the research literature for relevant studies, they should also explore whether unpublished local sources of research or evaluation data are available.

- b. **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 need 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 need identified in the preceding section and measurable. (Examples of measurable objectives include the following: to provide

training sessions for multidisciplinary teams, children's advocacy centers, and state chapter organizations of children's advocacy centers).

Performance Measures. OJJDP does not require applicants to submit performance measures data with their applications. Performance measures (see Performance Measures, page 8) are included as an alert that OJJDP will require successful applicants to submit specific data as part of their reporting requirements. 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.

- c. **Project Design and Implementation.** Applicants should detail how the project 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 structure the TTA program and how they will address TTA requests. Applicants should describe how they will complete the deliverables stated in the Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables section on page 4. The applicant should describe the multidisciplinary programs that they will use in assisting, training, and teaching community agencies and professionals called upon to respond to child abuse cases. Applicants should describe how they plan to help resolve problems that may occur during the development, operation, and implementation of a multidisciplinary program that responds to child abuse.

This section should also include details regarding any leveraged resources (cash or in-kind) from local sources to support the project and discuss plans for sustainability beyond the grant period.

Logic Model. Applicants should include a logic model that graphically illustrates how the performance measures are related to the project's problems, goals, objectives, and design. Sample logic models are available at www.ojjdp.gov/grantees/pm/logic_models.html. Applicants should submit the logic model as a separate attachment, as stipulated in Additional Attachments, page 15.

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 www.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 recipient may revise the timeline, based on training and technical assistance that OJJDP will provide.

- c. **Capabilities and Competencies.** This section should describe the experience and capability of the applicant organization and any contractors or subgrantees 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. Applicants should highlight their experience/capability/capacity to manage

subawards, including details on their system for fiscal accountability. Management and staffing patterns should be clearly connected to the project design described in the previous section. Applicants should describe the roles and responsibilities of project staff and explain the program's organizational structure and operations. Applicants should include a copy of the organizational chart showing how the organization operates, including who manages the finances; how the applicant manages subawards, if there are any; and the management of the project proposed for funding.

Letters of Support/Memoranda of Understanding. If submitting a joint application, as described under Eligibility, page 3, applicants should provide signed and dated letters of support or 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.

4. 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.

- Budget Detail Worksheet.** A sample Budget Detail Worksheet can be found at www.ojp.gov/funding/forms/budget_detail.pdf. Applicants that submit their budget in a different format should include the budget categories listed in the sample budget worksheet.
- Budget Narrative.** The Budget Narrative should thoroughly and clearly describe every category of expense listed in the Budget Detail Worksheet. OJP expects proposed budgets to be complete, cost effective, and allowable (e.g., reasonable, allocable, and necessary for project activities).

Applicants should demonstrate in their budget narratives how they will maximize cost effectiveness of grant expenditures. Budget narratives should generally describe cost effectiveness in relation to potential alternatives and the goals of the project. For example, a budget narrative should detail why planned in-person meetings are necessary or how the applicant could use technology and collaboration with outside organizations to reduce costs without compromising quality.

The 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 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.

5. 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.) 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 www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/pdfs/indirect_costs.pdf.

6. 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.

- a. Applicant disclosure of pending applications.** Applicants are to disclose whether they have pending applications for federal assistance that include requests for funding to support the same project being proposed under this solicitation and that 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 funding (e.g., applications to federal agencies) and indirect applications for such funding (e.g., applications to state agencies that will subaward 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 applications submitted within the last 12 months:

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

SAMPLE

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
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Applicants should include the table as a separate attachment, with the file name “Disclosure of Pending Applications,” to their application. Applicants that do not have pending applications as described above are to include a statement to this effect in the separate attachment page. (e.g., “[Applicant Name] does not have pending applications submitted within the last 12 months for federally funded assistance that include requests for funding to support the same project being proposed under this solicitation and will cover the identical cost items outlined in the budget narrative and worksheet in the application under this solicitation.”)

- b. **logic model** (see Logic Model, page 13)
- c. **timeline or milestone chart** (see Timeline, page 13)
- d. **résumés** of all key personnel
- e. **job descriptions** outlining roles and responsibilities for all key positions
- f. **letters of support/memoranda of understanding** from partner organizations (see Letters of Support/Memoranda of Understanding, page 14)
- g. **evidence of nonprofit status**, e.g., a copy of the tax exemption letter from the Internal Revenue Service, if applicable.
- h. **evidence of for-profit status**, e.g., a copy of the articles of incorporation, if applicable.

7. Other Standard Forms

Additional forms that OJP may require 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. [Standard Assurances](#).^{*} 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](#). Any applicant (other than an individual) that is a non-governmental entity and 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

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 10 percent of the entire score in the application review process.

1. Statement of the Problem (10 percent)
2. Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures (15 percent)
3. Project Design and Implementation (45 percent)
4. Capabilities and Competencies (25 percent)
5. Budget: complete, cost effective, and allowable (e.g., reasonable, allocable, and 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.¹ (5 percent)

See What an Application Is Expected To Include, page 11, 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. 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 OJJDP, 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.

Absent explicit statutory authorization or written delegation of authority to the contrary, the Assistant Attorney General, who may consider factors including, but not limited to, underserved populations, geographic diversity, strategic priorities, past performance, and available funding, will make all final award decisions.

¹ Generally speaking, a reasonable cost is a cost that, in its nature or amount, does not exceed that which would be incurred by a prudent person under the circumstances prevailing at the time the decision was made to incur the costs.

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 www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/other_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 [Office of Justice Programs Financial Guide](#)
- 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 register with and submit applications through Grants.gov, a “one-stop storefront” to find federal funding opportunities and apply for funding. Find complete instructions on how to register and submit an application at www.Grants.gov. 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: OJJDP 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 with Grants.gov for e-mail updates 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 subrecipients. 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 www.dnb.com. 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 subrecipients. OJP requires all applicants (other than individuals) for federal financial assistance to maintain current registrations in the SAM database. Applicants must register 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 into SAM and migrate permissions to the SAM account (all the entity registrations and records should already have been 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 www.sam.gov.

3. **Acquire an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) and a Grants.gov username and password.** Complete the AOR profile on Grants.gov and create a username and password. Applicants must use their organization's DUNS number 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. 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 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-2013-3575.
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 form, *Disclosure of Lobbying Activities* (SF-LLL). Applicants that do not expend any funds for lobbying activities should enter "N/A" in the required highlighted fields.
7. **Follow the directions in Grants.gov to submit an application consistent with this solicitation.** 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. **Important:** 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 permits the use of specific characters in names of attachment files. Valid file names may include only 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, OJJDP will review the most recent version submitted.

Experiencing Unforeseen Grants.gov Technical Issues

Applicants that experience unforeseen Grants.gov technical issues that prevent them from submitting their application by the deadline must e-mail the Justice Information Center (see Page 1 for contact information) **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: OJJDP 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 not valid reasons to permit late submissions: (1) failure to register 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 each instruction in the OJP solicitation, and (4) 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 www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/solicitations.htm.

Provide Feedback to OJP on This Solicitation

To help OJP improve 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 OJPSolicitationFeedback@usdoj.gov.

IMPORTANT: This e-mail is for feedback and suggestions only. OJP does **not** send replies 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 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, e-mail your resume to ojppeerreview@lmbps.com. 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

OJJDP FY2013 VOCA Regional Children's Advocacy Centers Program

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

Eligibility Requirement:

- Operation of a children's advocacy center with current accredited membership status in the National Children's Alliance
- Multidisciplinary staff experienced in providing coordinated services
- 5 years experience providing regional or national training and technical assistance to developing or established multidisciplinary teams, children's advocacy centers, and state chapter organizations of children's advocacy centers.
- The federal amount requested is within the allowable limit of \$1.125 million.

What an Application Is Expected To Include:

- Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) (see page 11)
- Abstract (see page 11)

- Program Narrative (see page 12)
 - Format (double spaced, 12-point standard font, 1" standard margins, narrative is 30 pages or less)
 - Statement of the Problem
 - Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures
 - Project Design and Implementation
 - Capabilities/Competencies

- Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative (see page 14)
- Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable) (see page 15)

- Additional Attachments (see page 15)
 - disclosure of pending applications
 - logic model
 - timeline or milestone chart
 - résumés of all key personnel
 - job descriptions for all key positions
 - letters of support/memoranda of understanding from partner organizations
 - evidence of nonprofit status e.g., copy of articles of incorporation, if applicable
 - evidence of for-profit status e.g., copy of tax exemption letter from the Internal Revenue Service, if applicable

- Other Standard Forms and Components, as applicable, including:
 - Accounting System and Financial Capability Questionnaire (see page 16)
 - DUNS number (see page 19)
 - System for Award Management (SAM) (see page 19)
 - AOR registration and confirmation (see page 20)
 - Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) (see page 20)