



## UNITING THREE FIRES AGAINST VIOLENCE

Training | Resources | Support

May 19, 2023

DOJ (OVW/OVW) Grantee Updates

### Federal Grant Related Information/Updates (includes OVW, OVC, etc.)

#### 1. **\*\*\*Important Deadline for All OVW Grantees In Order to Receive Funds**

The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) strongly encourages grantees to enroll and register multi-factor authentication (MFA) credentials no later than mid-September of this year in order to continue to receive federal funds.

Organizations that do not enroll and register with either ID.me or Login.gov by the Sept. 15, 2023, deadline will not be able to log in to ASAP.gov, the [Automated Standard Application for Payments](#) website used by OVW and other federal agencies to quickly and securely transfer money to organizations.

The deadline requirement is associated with the federal government's effort to combat digital crime and improve the nation's cybersecurity. As part of [President Biden's executive order](#), the Office of Management and Budget and the Treasury Department will be requiring multi-factor credentials for any agency logging into the ASAP.gov system.

Organizations can use these step-by-step guidelines to set up their MFA accounts:

- [For Login.gov](#)
- [For ID.me](#)

ASAP.gov will also conduct a series of webinars for recipient organizations about the federal directive. For a list of webinar dates and to register, [visit the ASAP website](#).

If you require additional assistance, please contact your grant manager or email [OVW.GFMD@usdoj.gov](mailto:OVW.GFMD@usdoj.gov).

#### 2. **\*\*\*Justice Department's Office on Violence Against Women Publishes Regulation Governing Special Tribal Criminal Jurisdiction Reimbursement Program**

The Justice Department's Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) published a regulation governing the Special Tribal Criminal Jurisdiction (STCJ) Reimbursement Program, a new program authorized under the Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization Act of 2022 (VAWA 2022) to reimburse Tribal governments for expenses incurred in exercising STCJ over non-Native individuals who commit certain covered crimes on Tribal lands. VAWA 2013 included a historic provision recognizing Tribes' authority to exercise STCJ over non-Indian offenders who committed domestic violence or dating violence or violated certain protection orders in Indian country. Last year's VAWA reauthorization built on the success of VAWA 2013 by expanding the covered crimes

under STCJ, enabling Tribes to hold accountable non-Native perpetrators of sexual violence, sex trafficking, stalking, child violence, assault of Tribal justice personnel and obstruction of justice.

“Tribes know best what their communities need, so I encourage tribal leaders, community members, and survivors to review this regulation for the Tribal Jurisdiction Reimbursement Program – it is critical that programs serving Tribal communities are informed by tribal voices,” said OVV Acting Director Allison Randall. “We are dedicated to removing barriers to access, and it is a victory that VAWA 2022 allows us to continue the Tribal Jurisdiction Program as well as reimburse expenses incurred as a result of implementation.”

OVV published the regulation on April 11. The regulation is available at [Regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) and the public is able to review the rule and submit comments no later than June 12. This regulation is an interim final rule, which means that it takes effect on the day of publication. OVV will take into consideration the comments received during the 60-day comment period as well as Tribes’ reaction to the implementation of the first year of the program before issuing a final rule.

You can learn more about the regulation and STCJ by [visiting our website](#).

Written comments must be postmarked and electronic comments must be submitted on or before **June 12, 2023**.

To comment via mail, send to:  
Office on Violence Against Women  
U.S. Department of Justice  
145 N Street NE, 10W.100  
Washington, DC 20530

Comments received by mail will be considered timely if they are postmarked on or before **June 12, 2023**. The electronic Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) also will accept comments until **11:59 p.m. ET on June 12**.

#### [SUBMIT A COMMENT](#)

Federally recognized Tribes that exercise STCJ are eligible for reimbursement funding under the STCJ Reimbursement Program. For Fiscal Year 2023, the combined appropriation for this program and the STCJ Grant Program is \$11 million. Of that amount, OVV may allocate up to \$4.4 million for the STCJ Reimbursement Program. Through this program, and as outlined in the interim final rule, Tribes may receive reimbursement for costs that are associated with exercising STCJ, such as law enforcement expenses, incarceration expenses, offender medical and dental expenses not otherwise covered by insurance, prosecution expenses, and defense counsel expenses. During the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2024, OVV plans to post a Notice of Reimbursement Opportunity on [justice.gov/ovw](https://justice.gov/ovw) with instructions on how to apply for the maximum allowable reimbursement. Later in calendar year 2024, OVV plans to provide instructions on how to apply for waivers of the annual maximum.

OVV administers grant programs designed to develop the nation’s capacity to reduce sexual assault, domestic and dating violence, and stalking, and tribal entities are generally eligible to apply for any OVV grant program where a comparable non-Tribal entity is eligible. [OVV’s Tribal Affairs Division](#) manages grant programs that are specifically targeted to Native American populations and tribes including the aforementioned STCJ Grant Program, Tribal Governments Program, Tribal Coalitions Program and Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program.

Recently, OVV announced that the 18th Annual Government-to-Government Violence Against Women Tribal Consultation will be held Aug. 8-10, 2023, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, to solicit recommendations from Tribal leaders on: administering Tribal funds and programs; enhancing the safety of Indian women from domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, homicide, stalking, and sex trafficking; strengthening the federal response to such crimes; and improving access to local, regional, state, and federal crime information databases and criminal justice information systems. Additional information is available at [www.ovvconsultation.org](https://www.ovvconsultation.org) A report of proceedings from last year’s consultation is available on OVV’s website.

### **3. \*\*\*Upcoming free SAM.gov training for Tribal Entities**

Please reserve your spot for the upcoming SAM.gov free trainings for Tribal Entities.  
**This training walks you through each step of entity validation and registration in SAM.gov.**

Please click on the titles (SAM.gov Training for Tribal Governments & Native American Owned Businesses) which takes you to SAM.gov to reserve your spot.

[SAM.gov Training for Tribal Governments & Native American Owned Businesses](#)

Mon, Jun 5, 2023 2:00 PM EDT

Free

GSA IAE

[SAM.gov Training for Tribal Governments & Native American Owned Businesses](#)

Mon, Jul 10, 2023 2:00 PM EDT

Free

GSA IAE

#### 4. \*\*\*OVC – Crime Victims Fund (CVF) Update from OVC Director’s Desk (from NAESV)

“Last week, OVC Director Kris Rose provided her monthly "From the Director's Desk" update which included an update on the Crime Victims Fund (CVF). You can listen here. Here is a summary of the CVF update from the call:

- The current balance of the CVF is \$2.1 billion. Keep in mind that most of this balance will be deducted for FY 23 obligations.
- \$273 million was collected in March.
- \$817 million has been collected for FY 23 so far.
- Active discussions with DOJ leadership about the health of the fund continue.
- Updated April numbers should be available very soon.”

#### 5. \*\*\*FACT SHEET: Justice Department Strengthens Efforts to Address the Crisis of Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons

**May 5th is MMIP Awareness Day**

*“The Justice Department is marshalling the full strength of its resources to confront the crisis of Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons, which has devastated the lives of victims, their families, and entire Tribal communities. Addressing this crisis requires a whole-of-government approach, and we are grateful for the partnership of Tribal and other law enforcement agencies across the nation that are working alongside the Justice Department to help reduce crime and support victims in American Indian and Alaska Native communities.”*

– Attorney General Merrick B. Garland

*“Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons Awareness Day calls on our nation to pause and honor the loved ones who have gone missing or who have been the victims of violent crime. Acknowledging the many American Indian and Alaska Native people who have suffered, and continue to suffer, from the pain of a missing loved one or of violent crime serves as an important reminder of the urgency and importance of the department’s work to respond to the crisis of missing or murdered indigenous persons. The Justice Department—including our dedicated agents, analysts, and prosecutors—remains steadfast in our pledge to work as partners with Tribal governments in preventing and responding to the violence that has disproportionately harmed Tribal communities.”*

– Deputy Attorney General Lisa O. Monaco

*“The Justice Department is committed to using every resource at its disposal to combat the Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons Crisis. In addition to our core law-enforcement work, we are providing grant funding and guidance to help Tribes develop response plans for missing-persons cases, partner effectively with local law enforcement, and provide resources for victims of crime.”*

– Associate Attorney General Vanita Gupta

The Justice Department joins its partners across the federal government, as well as people throughout American Indian and Alaska Native communities, in recognizing May 5 as [National Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons Awareness Day](#). Responding to the unacceptable levels of violence that have led to the crisis of Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP) is a priority of the Department of Justice every day.

The Department’s work to respond to the MMIP crisis is a whole-of-department effort that takes many forms. One year ago today, Deputy Attorney General Monaco joined Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland to launch the [Not Invisible Act Commission](#), a joint Commission established by the Not Invisible Act with an essential

mission — to reduce violence against American Indians and Alaska Natives. In February, they welcomed the first in-person plenary meeting of the Not Invisible Act Commission. Since then, the Department’s representatives on the commission — who are Department leaders and subject matter experts — have participated in the Commission’s [field hearings](#), which will continue through the summer. Later this year, the Commission will deliver recommendations for addressing the MMIP crisis to the Attorney General and the Secretary. In addition to supporting the Not Invisible Act Commission, the Department remains steadfast in its commitment to addressing the MMIP crisis.

#### **Department Prioritization of MMIP Cases**

In July 2022, Deputy Attorney General Monaco issued a [memorandum](#) reiterating that it is a priority of the Department of Justice to address the disproportionately high rates of violence experienced by American Indians and Alaska Natives, and relatedly, the high rates of indigenous persons reported missing. The memorandum directed each U.S. Attorney with Indian country jurisdiction — along with their law enforcement partners at the Justice Department — to update and develop new plans for addressing public safety in Indian country.

#### **Publication of Updated Attorney General Guidelines for Victim and Witness Assistance**

In October 2022, Attorney General Garland issued revised Attorney General Guidelines for Victim and Witness Assistance. The [revised guidelines](#), which was updated for the first time in a decade, address when and how Department employees work with victims and witnesses of crime to ensure that their voices are heard and that they are protected during criminal justice proceedings. For the first time the guidelines include cultural and linguistic considerations for victims from American Indian and Alaska Native communities.

#### **National Native American Outreach Services Liaison**

Last year, the Department announced the creation of a new National Native American Outreach Services Liaison. Since that announcement, the Liaison has begun to help amplify the voice of crime victims in Indian country and their families across the Department as they navigate the federal criminal justice system. In the coming months, the Liaison will meet with survivors and family members of MMIP to learn more about the current challenges in MMIP cases and to make recommendations about the Department’s continued response.

#### **Federal Law Enforcement Strategy to Prevent and Respond to the MMIP Crisis**

In July 2022, the Department of Justice and the Department of the Interior submitted a report pursuant to Sections 2 and 4(a) of Executive Order 14053, which called for “coordinated and comprehensive Federal law enforcement strategy to prevent and respond to violence against Native Americans, including to address missing or murdered indigenous people where the federal government has jurisdiction.” The report was published late last year and is available on the department website [here](#).

#### **Guide for Tribal Community Response Plans for Missing Persons Cases**

In December 2022, the Department published a [Guide to Developing a Tribal Community Response Plan for Missing Persons Cases](#). This Guide is a resource for Tribes interested in developing a plan to respond to missing person cases that is tailored to the specific needs, resources, and culture of Tribal communities.

#### **Launch of the COPS Office Tribal MOU/MOA Resource Library**

On Monday of this week, the Department’s Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) published its Tribal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)/Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) Sample Resource Library. This [library](#) provides users with the resources to research and successfully draft agreements that will help agencies develop and solidify partnerships to address missing or murdered Indigenous persons cases.

#### **Expanded Scope of the Tribal Victim Services Set-Aside Grant Program**

The department’s Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) expanded the scope of allowable activities under its Tribal Victim Services Set-Aside (TVSSA) grant program to permit Tribal communities to pay for costs related to generating awareness of individual missing persons cases involving American Indians and Alaska Native persons, supporting private search efforts for missing American Indians and Alaska Native persons in certain circumstances, and supporting efforts to coordinate the Tribal, state, and federal response to MMIP cases.

## Government-to-Government Tribal Consultation on Violence Against Women

In September 2022, the Department's Office of Violence Against Women (OVW) held the 17th Annual OVW Government-to-Government Tribal Consultation on Violence Against Women in Anchorage, Alaska. OVW is responsible for conducting annual government-to-government consultations with the leaders of all federally recognized Indian Tribal governments on behalf of the Attorney General. The 2022 Tribal consultation [report](#) is available [here](#).

## National Institute of Justice Study of MMIP Cases in New Mexico

Last year, the Department's National Institute of Justice (NIJ) funded a study that will provide vital information regarding the prevalence and context of cases of MMIP in New Mexico and, importantly, will inform long-term data collection, analysis, and reporting strategies on MMIP cases. These improvements will support data-driven decision-making regarding MMIP in New Mexico moving forward.

## Additional Department of Justice Resources

For additional information about the Department of Justice's efforts to address the MMIP crisis, please visit the Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons section of the Tribal Safety and Justice [website](#).

Click [here](#) for more information about reporting or identifying missing persons

## 6. \*\*\*OVW Launching Updated Website With New Features

We are pleased to inform you about an upcoming website update from OVW. On May 3, 2023, the OVW will introduce a revamped website, aiming to enhance the experience for grantees and applicants seeking information on grant opportunities and funding applications.

The website's URL will remain the same at <https://justice.gov/ovw>, and your existing OVW bookmarks are expected to work without any issues. The updated site will feature a new layout and improved website architecture for better usability. This design is primarily based on the [main DOJ website](#) that was launched in the previous year.

Here are some key updates to anticipate:

1. The new home page will feature direct links to frequently used resources, such as grant application processes, grant management, training and technical assistance, and resources for applicants, among others.
2. A dedicated landing page for grant programs will be introduced, enabling applicants to learn about all available funding opportunities and providing convenient links for further details.
3. For the first time, individual program pages will be established for each grant program, consolidating resources and information specific to a program, such as sample letters, webinars, PowerPoint presentations, transcripts, and announcements for new funding opportunities and awards. You are encouraged to bookmark the program page(s) you use most often.

We're excited to share this information with you, and we look forward to the website launch on May 3. If you have any questions, please reach out to your program team.

## 7. Fed Reg-DOJ (IFR) Special Tribal Criminal Jurisdiction Reimbursement

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE 28 CFR Part 90 [OVW Docket No. 2023-01] RIN 1105-AB69

### Special Tribal Criminal Jurisdiction Reimbursement

AGENCY: Office on Violence Against Women, Department of Justice.

ACTION: Interim final rule.

SUMMARY: The Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization Act of 2022 (VAWA 2022) authorized a new program to reimburse Tribal governments (or authorized designees of Tribal governments) for expenses incurred in exercising "special Tribal criminal jurisdiction" (STCJ) over non-Indians who commit certain covered crimes in Indian country. This rule will implement this new Tribal Reimbursement Program within the

Department of Justice’s Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) by providing details on how it will be administered, including eligibility, frequency of reimbursement, costs that can be reimbursed, the annual maximum allowable reimbursement per Tribe, and conditions for waiver of the annual maximum. DATES:

Effective date: This rule is effective April 11, 2023.

The Interim Final Rule can be found [here](#).

## 8. DOJ Grants Financial Guide Update and Maintenance of Documentation for Grant Expenditures (from March 23, 2023)

“Dear DOJ Award Recipients:

The Department of Justice (DOJ) has updated the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#), which serves as the primary reference manual to assist award recipients of the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), and the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office) in fulfilling their fiduciary responsibility to safeguard grant funds and ensure funds are used for the purposes for which they were awarded.

The following pertinent updates to the DOJ Financial Guide have occurred within the last quarter:

<i>Chapter/Topic</i>	<i>Date of Update</i>	<i>Sub-Topic</i>	<i>Description/Comments</i>
Resources 1.2:	November 1, 2022	Other Available Resources	Revised the title of JustGrants Training and Technical Assistance to JustGrants Resources and Training. Added a new resource <a href="#">OJP Recipient Resources</a> .
Chapter 2.2: Acceptance of Award and Award Conditions	November 1, 2022	Action Item	Added language regarding COPS Office awards requiring the two Authorized Representatives for this role in JustGrants.
Chapter 3.3: Matching or Cost Sharing Requirements	November 1, 2022	COPS Office Specific Tip	Revised matching or cost sharing requirement language regarding COPS Hiring Program.
Chapter 3.5: Adjustments to Awards	November 1, 2022	Grant Award Modification	Added language regarding Grant Award Modification.
Chapter 3.9: Allowable Costs	November 1, 2022	Publications/OJP Specific Tip	Added language regarding use of the awarding agency’s logo.
Chapter 3.10 OJP/COPS Office Conference Approval, Planning and Reporting	February 9, 2023	Rate thresholds	Revised rates throughout section (conference space & audio-visual equipment and services, logistical conference planner, and programmatic conference planner) in accordance with DOJ Policy Statement 1400.01.  Revised conference approval thresholds in accordance with DOJ Policy Statement 1400.01.
Chapter 3.15: Reporting Requirements	November 1, 2022	Action Item/Performance Reports	Revised language; clarified language regarding submission requirements.
Chapter 3.18: Closeout	November 1, 2022	Closeout of Awards	Revised language regarding COPS Office return of funds.
Chapter 3.22: Financial Management Training Requirements	November 1, 2022	Introduction	Added new language regarding high-risk recipients.
V. Appendices	November 1, 2022	5.1 Acronyms	Added Unique Entity Identifier (UEI).

Additionally, OJP has created a web page to provide a central location for OJP/COPS Office award recipients (including cooperative agreement recipients and subrecipients) and contractors that conduct training sessions, meetings, or conferences to access conference cost policy guidance and supporting materials, resources, and job aids. This page can be accessed at the following link: [OJP Conference Cost Reporting Policy and Guidance Documents | Office of Justice Programs](#).

OVW has an existing web page with guidelines and policies to help recipients of OVW grants and cooperative agreements in planning meetings and conferences, available at the following link: [Conference Planning \(justice.gov\)](#).

#### **Maintenance of Documentation for Grant Expenditures**

As a reminder, recipients of federal award funds are responsible for maintaining proper and contemporaneous support for all expenditures charged to each individual award (i.e., grant or cooperative agreement). The recipients must maintain records (including accounting records and source documents), which sufficiently demonstrate that all expenditures charged to federal awards are allowable. Per the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#), “costs are allowable when they are reasonable, allocable to, and necessary for the performance of the federal award, and when they comply with the funding statute and agency requirements (to include the conditions of the award), including the cost principles set out in the Uniform Requirements [2 C.F.R. Part 200, Subpart E.](#)” Additional information about record retention requirements can be found [here](#).

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact:

**Office of Justice Programs:** Office of the Chief Financial Officer, Customer Service Center, at 1-800- 458-0786, or by e-mail at [ask.ocfo@usdoj.gov](mailto:ask.ocfo@usdoj.gov).

**Office on Violence Against Women:** Grants Financial Management Division at 1-888-514-8556 or by email at [ovw.gfmd@usdoj.gov](mailto:ovw.gfmd@usdoj.gov).

**Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office):** COPS Office Response Center at 1-800-421-6770 or by e-mail at [askcopsrc@usdoj.gov](mailto:askcopsrc@usdoj.gov).

Rachel Johnson  
Chief Financial Officer  
Office of Justice Programs  
U.S. Department of Justice “

## **9. OVW: Overview of the Tribal Affairs Division (TAD)**

TAD manages four of the 19 grant programs administered by the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) as well as tribal specific special initiatives. The video below is an introduction to the four TAD grant programs: Tribal Governments Program, Tribal Jurisdiction Program, Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program and the Tribal Coalitions Program.

[Click here to view the video.](#)

The Tribal Affairs Division hopes this information will be helpful with accessing funding resources your community may need to develop projects and programs that comprehensively address the issues your community is facing with sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, sex trafficking, and stalking.

For more information and to view the videos, visit: <https://www.ovwconsultation.org/Leveraging-TAD>

## **10. OVW: DOJ Grants Financial Guide**

The DOJ Financial Guide ([DOJ Financial Guide](#)) serves as the guide to assist recipients in fulfilling their fiduciary responsibility to safeguard grant funds and ensure funds are used for the purposes for which they were awarded. The most recent revision to the guide became effective March 31, 2022. The revised Guide and prior versions are available on OVW’s website at <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-management>. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact GFMD at [OVW.GFMD@usdoj.gov](mailto:OVW.GFMD@usdoj.gov).



### **Upcoming Events**

Advocate Check In Calls – Every Second Thursday of the Month - 10:00am EST

Tribal Trafficking/MMIP Work Group – Every Other Third Thursday of the Month – 1:00pm EST

For more information about any upcoming events, reach out to UTFAV Training Coordinator at [vpatzwald@utfav.org](mailto:vpatzwald@utfav.org)