



State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2027 Competitive Victims of Crime Act (VOCA/VOCG)

Grant Program Application

Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)

Online Submission Deadline: Friday, March 6, 2026 at 11:59 p.m.

Funded by:

**The Federal Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) VOCA Victim Assistance Formula Grant (CFDA#16.575)
and**

State of Maryland Victims of Crime Act State General Funds (VOCG)

Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy*

100 Community Place

Crownsville, MD 21032-2022

<https://gocpp.maryland.gov>

(410) 697-9338

Wes Moore, Governor

Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor

Dorothy J. Lennig, Esq., Executive Director

ELIGIBILITY

Funding through this competitive opportunity is available to established victim services programs to support the critical needs of crime victims throughout Maryland.

IMPORTANT LINKS

Grants Management System [GMS Application Instructions](#)

All applications must be submitted online in the [Grants Management System \(GMS\)](#).

Hard copy applications are not accepted.

***Note to Applicants:** In order to be considered as a successful application, an eligible entity must propose strategies consistent with guidelines provided in two documents, updated annually, by GOCPP: *GMS Application Instructions* (rev. January 2026) and this program-specific *Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)*. All required documents in the NOFA checklist must be received in the GMS Portal by the submission deadline. References to the adoption of federal addendum terms/conditions, and [2 CFR, Part 200](#), are listed based on the best knowledge available to GOCPP. See specific references to <https://www.ojp.gov/funding/part200uniformrequirements> and <https://acf.gov/grants/manage-grant/grant-award/award-terms>

Purpose

Thank you for applying for the **SFY 2027 Competitive Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant Program** from the **Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (Office)**. The primary purpose of VOCA/VOCG is to support the most critical crime victims' needs statewide through funding victim service providers with a proven track record of service.

Please note, per VOCA/VOCG, a victim of crime is defined as a person who has suffered physical, sexual, financial, or emotional harm as a direct result of the commission of a crime. [Only primary and secondary victims](#) receiving services for their current victimization are eligible for VOCA/VOCG related expenses.

Note: This is a **fully competitive application process**, contingent upon final approval of the Office's budget during the Maryland 2026 Legislative Session. This competitive process will allow the Office to address the most critical victims' needs throughout Maryland. Applicants are strongly encouraged to fully document their most vital needs as well as demonstrate previous/current success in meeting these needs throughout their application request. While there is no cap on funding requests, **all line items requested must be justified as a vital need** for the provision of victim services.

If you need assistance with applying or have questions about the program, please contact:

Alisa Baum, VOCA/VOCG Grant Monitor
alisa.baum@maryland.gov

David Blum, Funding Manager
david.blum@maryland.gov

Chaylah Steverson, VOCA/VOCG Grant Monitor
chaylah.steverson@maryland.gov

Molly Zhang, Fiscal Specialist
molly.zhang@maryland.gov

If you need assistance with program requirements or project design, please contact:

Heather Amador, Director of Victim Services Policy and Programs
heather.amador@maryland.gov

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy's success is measured by sub-recipient success. It is critical that we hear from you, our customers. The Moore-Miller administration is committed to providing the best possible customer service to our citizens. To share your ideas on how the Office can best serve you and provide support, please email the above program manager to provide your feedback

Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy's Mission

To serve as a coordinating office that advises the Governor on criminal justice strategies. The Office plans, promotes, and funds efforts with government entities, private organizations, and the community to advance public policy, enhance public safety, reduce crime and juvenile delinquency, and serve victims.

For more information, please refer to [Maryland's Comprehensive State Crime Control and Prevention Plan](#).

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Eligibility Criteria

The following entities in Maryland are eligible to submit no more than one (1) application for the Competitive Victims of Crime Act (VOCA/VOCG) funding provided they meet the additional required eligibility below:

- Certified Rape Crisis Centers
- Certified Comprehensive Domestic Violence Programs
- Designated Child Advocacy Centers
- Local government Agencies
- Non-profit Faith-based Organizations
- Non-profit Institutes of Higher Learning
- Non-profit Victim Services Organizations
- State Government Agencies
- Designated Statewide Victim Service Coalitions

Additional Established Eligibility Criteria that must be met by all organizations in order to receive VOCA/VOCG funds:

- Effective Provision of Services
- Use of Volunteers
- Promote Community Efforts to Aid Crime Victims
- Help Victims Apply for Compensation Benefits
- Comply with Federal and State Rules Regulating Grants
- Maintain Civil Rights Information
- Provide Services to Victims of Federal Crimes
- Do not Charge Victims for VOCA/VOCG Funded Services
- Meet Confidentiality Requirements
- Be in Good Standing with GOCPP and the state of Maryland

Non-profit – 501(c)(3) or (4)

An organization must provide proof of this status by submitting a copy of its status letter from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) with the application. The requirements for obtaining 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) status can be found on the Internal Revenue Service website (www.irs.gov); search for Publication 557 “Tax-Exempt Status for Your Organization.” If the IRS letter is not available, a letter from your organization’s authorized official listing officers, bylaws, and/or articles is permissible until such a time that a copy can be obtained from the IRS. The organization is responsible for providing an updated W-9 form to ensure prompt and proper payment by the grantor.

Faith-Based Organizations

Faith-based organizations applying for grant funding do not have to relinquish or modify their religious identity (e.g., remove religious symbols) to be considered eligible applicants. However, grant funding may not be used to fund any inherently religious activity, such as prayer or worship. Organizations may continue to engage in inherently religious activities; however, such activities may not coincide with activities funded by the grant—i.e., such religious activities must be separate (in time and place) from the grant funded activity. Further, any participation in religious activities by individuals receiving services provided under the grant must be voluntary.

SAM.gov Every applicant entity must comply with all applicable System of Award Management ([SAM.gov](#)) and unique entity identifier (UEI) requirements throughout the grant cycle. Also refer to the [Grants Management System \(GMS\) Application Instructions](#). Grant funds are reimbursed based on actual quarterly expenditures unless noted otherwise under [Section VIII: Funding Specification](#).

Designation of Funding

As the State Administering Agency (SAA) for OVC VOCA funding and the VOCG state general funds, the Office will award VOCA/VOCG funds only to crime victim assistance programs that meet the requirements of VOCA, at [34 U.S.C. 20103\(b\)\(1\)](#). Each program shall abide by any additional criteria or reporting requirements established by the Office. [81 FR 44528, July 8, 2016, as amended at 88 FR 3657, Jan. 20, 2023] § 94.112

I. Program Description

A. Requiring Agency

Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (Office)

B. Opportunity Title

Competitive Victim of Crime Act (VOCA/VOCG)

C. Submission Date

Friday March 6, 2026, by 11:59 PM

D. Anticipated Period of Performance

July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027

E. Funding Opportunity Description

The [Crime Victims Fund](#) (the Fund) was established by the [Victims of Crime Act \(VOCA\)](#) of 1984. This Federal Fund is financed by fines and penalties paid by persons convicted in federal cases, not from tax dollars. Because Federal funds continue to fluctuate, the Maryland General Assembly passed a bill to support crime victim services during the 2023 legislative session. [Senate Bill 148/HB186](#), known as the Victim Services Stabilization Act, provides that the state will include funding in the state budget to ensure that VOCA/VOCG is funded at [\\$60 million](#) regardless of the amount federally awarded.

The Office anticipates making up to 150 awards with a **minimum** application request of \$50,000 for SFY 2027. The link to the eCFR regulations (Part 94- Crime Victim Services) can be found [HERE](#).

Please note:

- **All applications will be competitively scored. Incomplete applications as well as applications that do not meet the minimum range noted above are subject to removal from consideration during the initial technical review and/or will receive deduction points during the review process.**
- All costs must be reasonable, allocable, and allowable including indirect costs. Additionally, GOCPP funding is reimbursable. To this end, subrecipients must have the financial capacity to support the awarded expenses until reimbursement requests are submitted, approved, and provided. See the [Distribution of Funds & Reporting Requirements](#) section below for more information on reimbursement schedules.

Availability of Funds

All funding is contingent upon the final approval of the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy's budget during [Maryland's 2026 Legislative Session](#) of the General Assembly.

Federal funds: All funding is contingent upon the Office receiving the specified grant funds from the Office of Victims of Crime.

II. Program Requirements

The Office has made changes to the SFY 2027 application instructions. An applicant should review the [GMS Application Instructions](#) in concert with this program-specific NOFA before submitting their application in the GMS. The narrative description submitted in the GMS must incorporate the following program-specific elements in addition to the requirements in the [GMS Application Instructions](#).

All applications must adhere to word limits for each narrative response. Much of the information is required to be submitted in a numerical, outline format, which should aid in a concise application to meet maximum word requirements.

Note: The GMS will allow each response to exceed the word limit. **It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure each response is within the limit. All words beyond the limit will not be read, considered, or reviewed.**

Applications that do not adhere to these requirements, as well as providing incomplete narratives and attachments, may be disqualified and removed from consideration during the initial technical review. The Office encourages applicants to draft their narrative in a word processing program

(e.g., Microsoft Word, Google Docs, etc.) then transfer to the GMS to aid in ensuring technical requirements.

Application Tip: A double-spaced page of 12-point Times New Roman font typically contains 250-350 words.

Also, see the [Evaluation](#) section below.

A. Overall Organization Information (Word Limit: 500)

As described in the GMS Application Instructions, provide the organization's mission statement, overview of primary services offered, and key organizational information in an outline format. Upload an Organizational Chart to illustrate the relationship of resource allocation within a specialized unit or division of the organization.

- a. **Population served:** If the applicant does not serve 100% crime victims [as defined by VOCA](#), please provide the percentage of VOCA defined crime victims versus the total population served.
- b. **Total number of clients or victims who live, work or were victimized in Maryland** your organization **serves across all programs** (inclusive of all funding sources including grants, general funds, private donations, etc.) broken down by the level of service. For victims who received services across multiple levels, only count them in the highest level of service received. Estimates are acceptable on the level of service for the 2024 and 2025 year data.
 - i. Brief (30 minutes or less: outreach events, a brief hotline call, referrals, introductions, financial assistance)
 1. SFY 2024:
 2. SFY 2025:
 3. SFY 2026:
 4. SFY 2027 - proposed:
 - ii. Intermediate (30 minutes to 24 hours: longer hotline call, a counseling session, an overnight hotel or shelter stay, a consultation, etc.)
 1. SFY 2024:
 2. SFY 2025:
 3. SFY 2026:
 4. SFY 2027 - proposed:
 - iii. Extended (exceeds 24 hours: long term sheltering, extended counseling, extended therapies, rehabilitative education, etc.)
 1. SFY 2024:
 2. SFY 2025:
 3. SFY 2026:
 4. SFY 2027 - proposed:

B. Problem Statement/Needs Justification (Word Limit: 500)

To ensure the highest possible score in this **competitive process**, please ensure that all statistics and data are recent and accurate.

As described in the [GMS Application Instructions](#), summarize the need for proposed services, any anticipated barriers, relationships to [ENOUGH Grant Program](#), and justify the request for new or continued funding in an outline format.

C. Program Purpose Area (Word Limit: 150)

To be eligible for funding under the VOCA/VOCG, the proposed program must demonstrate support of one or more of the following four categories of victims of crime in this section of the narrative:

- Victims of sexual assault
- Victims of domestic violence
- Victims of child abuse
- Underserved Populations - The following groups are designated as “underserved populations”: non-English speaking victims; survivors of homicide victims; and victims of crimes including; assault, robbery, gang violence, hate and bias crimes, intoxicated drivers, bank robbery, economic exploitation and fraud, elder abuse, and federal crimes.

As described in the [GMS Application Instructions](#), provide details on how the proposed project will address the problem identified and include the design that will impact the target population.

D. Project Design (Word Limit: 750)

See the [GMS Application Instructions](#) for requirements for this section of the narrative.

E. Goals & Objectives (Word Limit: 1,500)

The purpose of the Victims of Crime Act program is to improve the treatment of victims of crime by providing victims with the assistance and services necessary to aid their recovery after a violent criminal act, and to support and aid them as they move through the criminal justice process.

Add the following statistics under the Past Performance Indicators section for each objective specific to this application:

1. Provide the **number of victims who live, work, or were victimized in Maryland served for this objective** broken down by the level of service. For victims who received services across multiple levels, only count them in the highest level of service received. **Estimates are acceptable** on the level of service for SFY 2024 and 2025 data.
 - a. Brief (30 minutes or less: outreach events, a brief hotline call, referrals, introductions, financial assistance)
 - i. SFY 2024:
 - ii. SFY 2025:
 - iii. SFY 2026:

- iv. SFY 2027 - proposed:
- b. Intermediate (30 minutes to 24 hours: longer hotline call, a counseling session, an overnight hotel or shelter stay, a consultation, etc.)
 - i. SFY 2024:
 - ii. SFY 2025:
 - iii. SFY 2026:
 - iv. SFY 2027 - proposed:
- c. Extended (exceeds 24 hours: long term sheltering, extended counseling, extended therapies, rehabilitative education, etc.)
 - i. SFY 2024:
 - ii. SFY 2025:
 - iii. SFY 2026:
 - iv. SFY 2027 - proposed:

As described in the [GMS Application Instructions](#), identify overarching goals, corresponding objectives, measurable outcomes, and a timeline for project completion.

F. Data Collection Plan (Word Limit: 250)

As described in the [GMS Application Instructions](#), summarize how the goals' effectiveness will be measured. Describe data collection and management tools used for this project to measure success.

G. Grant Personnel (Word Limit: 500)

As described in the [GMS Application Instructions](#), describe the Implementing Agency's achievements, the role of personnel listed on the GMS Face Sheet Tab, and the methodology for allocating shared costs as applicable. Funding requests for line items must be limited to staff or projects supported by this application.

H. Sustainability (Word Limit: 200)

To be eligible for funding under this VOCA/VOCG NOFA, each applicant must **clearly state whether or not** the agency has the financial capacity to **provide a 20% cash or in-kind cost share (formerly known as match)**. For those able to provide a 20% cost share, the narrative should indicate how the cash or in-kind cost share will be provided in this section of the narrative. **Additionally, the budget must include a breakdown of the cost share line items.** To assist, see the [Grant Cost Share \(Match\) Calculator](#).

Bonus points will be provided to agencies that can provide this cost share in the narrative and budget, and therefore are demonstrating substantial financial support from sources other than federal funding.

As described in the [GMS Application Instructions](#), also provide assurance that the project will have a long term impact even after grant funding ends.

I. Applicant Disclosure of Pending Applications Statement (Word Limit: 150)

As described in the [GMS Application Instructions](#), your organization must disclose all pending grant applications for the same project (identical cost items) requested under this solicitation.

J. Budget Details and Spending Plan (Word Limit: 750)

As described in the [GMS Application Instructions](#), provide a narrative for the budget and spending plan.

K. Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and SAM.gov Expiration Date

Enter your entity's 12-character alphanumeric Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) issued by [SAM.gov](#). List a valid expiration date. If you are experiencing an issue, please enter 12/31/2099 in this data field and include a sentence or two explaining this workaround under the UEI and SAM.gov expiration narrative section in the GMS portal. Please note, you will be required to address any issue listed here before reimbursement can occur.

L. Person Completing the Project Narrative

Include person completing project narrative: Include the following: Name, Job Title, Organization Name, Telephone, and E-mail address.

Outcome-based Performance Measures

The Office strongly encourages the use of data and evidence in policy making and program development for criminal justice, juvenile justice, and crime victim services. For additional information and resources on best practices or evidence-based programs, see the [OJP Resource Guide](#).

In the **narrative section of the GMS**, the applicant shall describe its [Program Measurement](#) and the [Data Collection Plan](#). Successful grantees will be required to report on the progress of these self-identified performance measures to GOCPP as part of quarterly Progress Reporting throughout the life of the grant.

To be eligible for funding under the VOCA/VOCG, applicants must document how they will maintain statutorily required civil rights statistics on victims served by race, national origin, sex, age, and disability, and permit the Office reasonable access to its records upon request. This requirement is waived when providing a service where soliciting the information may be inappropriate or offensive to the crime victim. An example is telephone counseling.

Programs who are awarded federal funding will be required to collect and submit federal Performance Measurement Tool ([PMT](#)) data in addition to the reporting and data collection required by the Office.

Grantees will be required to track and measure program outputs and outcomes that directly support the Office's objective of improving victim services for Maryland residents by identifying and establishing resources to assist victims in achieving self sufficiency, improving victim safety, and ensuring victims and the community are aware of their rights and resources.

All grants awarded under this funding opportunity will be required to report on the following mandatory performance measures:

1. During this reporting period and using ONLY THESE grant funds, how many NEW primary victims who live, work, or were victimized in Maryland were served? A **primary victim** is an individual who directly experiences harm or abuse as the result of a crime; such as physical, emotional, or sexual violence.
2. During this reporting period and using ONLY THESE grant funds, how many NEW secondary victims who live, work, or were victimized in Maryland were served? A **secondary victim** is an individual who is indirectly affected by a crime or harmful event as a result of a crime. They may be impacted emotionally or psychologically because of their relationship with the primary victim.
3. During this reporting period and using ONLY THESE grant funds, how many NEW total victims (both primary and secondary victims) who live, work, or were victimized in Maryland were served?
4. During this reporting period and using ONLY THESE grant funds, how many victims who live, work, or were victimized in Maryland received on-going services? (This should not include NEW primary or secondary victims.)
5. During this reporting period and using ALL funding sources (all grants, general funding, fundraising, etc.), how many unduplicated NEW primary victims who live, work, or were victimized in Maryland were served? A **primary victim** is an individual who directly experiences harm or abuse as the result of a crime; such as physical, emotional, or sexual violence.
6. During this reporting period and using ALL funding sources (all grants, general funding, fundraising, etc.), how many unduplicated NEW secondary victims who live, work, or were victimized in Maryland were served? A **secondary victim** is an individual who is indirectly affected by a crime or harmful event as a result of a crime. They may be impacted emotionally or psychologically because of their relationship with the primary victim.*
7. During this reporting period and using ALL funding sources (all grants, general funding, fundraising, etc.), how many total unduplicated NEW victims (both primary and secondary victims) who live, work, or were victimized in Maryland were served?
8. During this reporting period and using ALL funding sources, how many victims who live, work, or were victimized in Maryland received on-going services?** (This should not include NEW primary or secondary victims.)

Please refer to the following definition of terms:

Primary victim means an individual who directly experiences harm or abuse as the result of a crime; such as physical, emotional, or sexual violence.

Secondary victim means an individual who is indirectly affected by a crime or harmful event as a result of a crime. They may be impacted emotionally or psychologically because of their relationship with the primary victim.

Unduplicated means that each victim is counted only once even if the victim meets more than one criteria, specific data variable, or service.

On-going services means services that are provided to current victims that are not counted under the

new primary or secondary metrics.

Please note, per VOCA, a victim of crime is defined as a person who has suffered physical, sexual, financial, or emotional harm as a result of the commission of a crime. Additionally, all VOCA funded services or treatment must be directly related to the immediate needs of the crime victim. Only primary and secondary victims, as defined above, are eligible for VOCA/VOCG related expenses.

VOCA-defined victims must be identified and documented separately from any other populations an agency may serve, including members of the general public, individuals who trade sex, people experiencing homelessness, or those with substance dependence not caused by crime victimization.

When an agency serves a population broader than only VOCA-eligible crime victims, and provides services related to a victim's most recent victimization, the agency is required to clearly distinguish VOCA-eligible victims from other clients and non-VOCA-eligible individuals. Additionally, the agency must accurately report the percentage of clients who qualify as VOCA-eligible victims, separate from all other populations served.

Only VOCA eligible clients receiving services directly related to their recent victimization are eligible for VOCA funded services. Services to a victim that are unrelated to their crime victimization are considered unallowable.

Please note that these lists are not inclusive of all the potential outputs and outcome measures that may be included in the final awards.

III. Application Process

Applicants are required to apply for grant funding through the Office's web-based application process, which may be accessed through the web URL <https://gocpp.maryland.gov> and clicking on **Log in to the Grant Management System (GMS)**, or by going directly to the login screen using the URL: <https://grants.goccp.maryland.gov>.

In order to use the Office's web-based application, you must have a User ID. If you have not previously applied through the web, go to the following URL to obtain instructions and the information required to obtain a User ID and password:
<https://gocpp.maryland.gov/grants/requesting-access/>.

The last day to request a User ID is Friday, February 6, 2026. If you have previously applied through the web, use your existing User ID and password.

If you have previously applied to the Office, but do not have your User ID, or are having technical issues with the system, contact the GMS Help Desk via email at support@goccp.freshdesk.com for assistance. If you need assistance completing the program-specific information required in the online application, please contact David Blum at David.Blum@Maryland.gov.

The Grant Management System (GMS) Help Desk operates Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 5 PM. The normal response time is 24 - 72 hours.

IV. Training/Technical Assistance (TA)

A recorded webinar on [Grants Management and Program Development Training](#) is available on the [Grants Page](#). This is a best practice reference tool to onboard grants management staff on all pre-award to post-award activities and revisions to federal [Uniform Guidance- 2 CFR, Part 200](#).

To help applicants prepare and submit applications that reflect the Office's established guidelines and procedures, training is provided through [training videos](#), which are located on the Office's website, and may be accessed through the following URL:

<https://gocpp.maryland.gov/grants/gms-help-videos/>.

Please review the [GMS training videos](#) before you begin your application to familiarize yourself with system guidelines, fiscal review, tips, civil rights requirements, etc.

Additionally, instructions for completing the online application can be found at [GMS Application Instructions](#). Applicants are encouraged to review these instructions before completing the online application.

The Office will conduct a technical assistance conference call to provide further application assistance and to answer questions. A NOFA/Application technical assistance call will be held on **Wednesday, February 4th, 2026 from 12:30 - 2 pm**. We encourage applicants to use the Google Meeting link below:

Wednesday, February 4 · 12:30 – 2:00pm

Time zone: America/New_York

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/aqn-kgpd-pgy>

Or dial: (US) +1 802-391-0853 PIN: 773 969 132#

V. Important Dates

Application Technical Assistance Call	Wednesday, Feb 4, 2026
Deadline to Request a User ID	Friday, Feb 6, 2026
Deadline to Submit an Online Application	Friday, March 6, 2026
Letters of Intent Emailed/Denial Letters Emailed	May 2026
Award Documents	June 2026
Sub-award Start Date	July 1, 2026
Sub-award End Date	June 30, 2027

VI. Application Evaluation

The Office, along with an internal or external review team, shall assess the merits of the proposed project. Applicants should review this program-specific NOFA in concert with the *GMS Application Instructions* located at <https://gocpp.maryland.gov/gms-application-instructions/> when developing the application to ensure all required elements are included and addressed. Scoring is as follows:

1. Overall Organization Information (Weight: 10%)
2. Problem Statement/Needs Justification & Program Purpose Area (Weight: 20%)
3. Project Design (Weight: 20%)
4. Goals & Objectives and Data Collection Plan (Weight: 20%)
5. Key Grant Personnel (Weight: 5%)
6. Budget Details, Spending Plan, and Sustainability (Weight: 25%)

Additionally, this year for this **competitive** funding opportunity:

- Bonus Points will be awarded for:
 - Programs who currently have a VOCA/VOCG active award (as of February 1, 2025)
 - Certified Rape Crisis Centers
 - Designated Comprehensive Domestic Violence programs
 - Designated Child Advocacy Centers (accredited or working toward accreditation)
 - State recognized Victim Service Coalitions and Alliances
 - Programs primarily serving underserved populations within the state (homicide, violent crime and non-fatal shooting, restitution recovery assistance, etc.)
 - Programs with the ability to provide a 20% non federal cost share for their award
- Deductions will be assessed for:
 - Applications that include unallowable items or items without proper justification (points will be deducted per unallowable/unjustified item requested)
 - Missing required documents as noted on [Application Checklist](#) at the end of this NOFA (points will be deducted per missing item)
 - Submitted documents missing signatures (points will be deducted per missing signature)
 - Applications that do not include proration (points will be deducted for each line item that is not prorated)
 - Current VOCA/VOCG awardees in poor standing on existing award(s) (examples: regular late reporting of state or federal requirements, history of deobligation of funding, unresponsiveness to inquiries, audit findings, etc.)

The VOCA/VOCG grant program is a competitive application process. The Office may conduct a three-tier review of each application submitted per this Notice of Funding Availability. As part of the internal review, the Office's staff will also review the following for each application:

- Relevant crime statistics aligned with funding priorities
- Scope (geographic size and location)
- Reach (ability to recognize and address the needs of underserved/marginalized populations)
- Audit findings (If applicable, upload Corrective Action Plan)
- Performance history with previous awards

Please note, any application that is in whole or part found to contain plagiarism, such as language or information from another organization's current or prior application, will be removed from funding consideration.

VII. Funding Specifications

A. Funding Cycle

Commencement of awards funded under VOCA/VOCG for SFY 2027 will begin July 1, 2026, and end on June 30, 2027. These funds cannot be extended beyond June 30, 2027 without prior permission from the Office.

B. Allowable Costs

Important Note: VOCA/VOCG is competitive. Last year the Office received more than \$80 million in requests with \$60 million available to disburse. Applicants should apply for the most critical direct service needs to address the immediate victimization of Maryland crime victims [as defined by VOCA](#). Further, budget line items should be prioritized appropriately.

General guidance on cost allocation and prorate: Applicants must determine the appropriate methodology for allocating shared costs that are budgeted and charged to multiple grants. Reimbursable funds charged to multiple costs in the accounting and financial management system must be distributed in proportion using the principles of reasonable, allowable, and allocable expenditures per budget category and line item, as applicable.

Sample Budget Spreadsheet Tool: For assistance in developing application budgets to include all required elements, the Office has developed this [Budget Assistance Spreadsheet](#) tool. Applicants are encouraged to complete this spreadsheet as a tool, then transfer all information into the online Grants Management System (GMS). Note: use of this tool is not required and **should not be uploaded** into the GMS. The Budget entered into the GMS Budget Tab is the only budget that will be reviewed and considered for each application.

○ [Allowable Direct Services Costs](#)

1. **Immediate emotional, psychological, and physical health and safety** services that respond to immediate needs (other than medical care, except as allowed under [paragraph \(a\)\(9\)](#) of this section) of crime victims, including, but not limited to:
 - a. Crisis Intervention services;
 - b. Accompanying victims to hospitals for medical examinations;
 - c. Hotline counseling;

- d. Safety planning;
- e. Emergency food, shelter, clothing, and transportation;
- f. Short-term (up to 45 days) in-home care and supervision services for children and adults who remain in their own homes when the offender/caregiver is removed;
- g. Short-term (up to 45 days) nursing-home, adult foster care, or group-home placement for adults for whom no other safe, short-term residence is available;
- h. Window, door, or lock replacement or repair, and other repairs necessary to ensure a victim's safety;
- i. Costs of the following, on an emergency basis (*i.e.*, when the State's compensation program, the victim's (or in the case of a minor child, the victim's parent's or guardian's) health insurance plan, Medicaid, or other health care funding source, is not reasonably expected to be available quickly enough to meet the emergency needs of a victim (typically within 48 hours of the crime):
Non-prescription and prescription medicine, prophylactic or other treatment to prevent HIV/AIDS infection or other infectious disease, durable medical equipment (such as wheel-chairs, crutches, hearing aids, eyeglasses), and other healthcare items are allowed; and
- j. Emergency legal assistance, such as for filing for restraining or protective orders, and obtaining emergency custody orders and visitation rights;

2. ***Personal advocacy and emotional support***, including, but not limited to:

- a. Working with a victim to assess the impact of the crime;
- b. Identification of victim's needs;
- c. Case management;
- d. Management of practical problems created by the victimization;
- e. Identification of resources available to the victim;
- f. Provision of information, referrals, advocacy, and follow-up contact for continued services, as needed; and
- g. Traditional, cultural, and/or alternative therapy/healing (*e.g.*, art therapy, yoga);

3. ***Mental health counseling and care***, including, but not limited to, out-patient therapy/counseling (including, but not limited to, substance-abuse treatment so long as the treatment is directly related to the victimization) provided by a person who meets professional standards to provide these services in the jurisdiction in which the care is administered;

4. ***Peer-support***, including, but not limited to, activities that provide opportunities for victims to meet other victims, share experiences, and provide self-help, information, and emotional support;

5. ***Facilitation of participation in criminal justice and other public proceedings arising from the crime*** —The provision of services and payment of costs that help victims participate in the criminal justice system and in other public proceedings arising from the crime (*e.g.*, juvenile justice hearings, civil commitment proceedings), including, but not limited to:

- a. Advocacy on behalf of a victim;
- b. Accompanying a victim to offices and court;
- c. Transportation, meals, and lodging to allow a victim who is not a witness to participate in a proceeding;
- d. Interpreting for a non-witness victim who is deaf or hard of hearing, or with limited English proficiency;

- e. Providing child care and respite care to enable a victim who is a caregiver to attend activities related to the proceeding;
- f. Notification to victims regarding key proceeding dates (e.g., trial dates, case disposition, incarceration, and parole hearings);
- g. Assistance with Victim Impact Statements;
- h. Assistance in recovering property that was retained as evidence; and
- i. Assistance with restitution advocacy on behalf of crime victims.

6. **Legal assistance** services (including, but not limited to, those provided on an emergency basis), where reasonable and where the need for such services arises as a direct result of the victimization. Such services include, but are not limited to:

- a. Those (other than criminal defense) that help victims assert their rights as victims in a criminal proceeding directly related to the victimization, or otherwise protect their safety, privacy, or other interests as victims in such a proceeding;
- b. Motions to vacate or expunge a conviction, or similar actions, where the jurisdiction permits such a legal action because the person is a crime victim; and
- c. Those actions (other than tort actions) that, in the civil context, are reasonably necessary as a direct result of the victimization;
- d. **Representation in a protective order.**

7. **Forensic medical evidence collection examinations** for victims to the extent that other funding sources such as State appropriations are insufficient. Forensic medical evidence collection examiners are encouraged to follow relevant guidelines or protocols issued by the State or local jurisdiction. Sub-recipients are encouraged to provide appropriate crisis counseling and/or other types of victim services that are offered to the victim in conjunction with the examination. Sub-recipients are also encouraged to use specially trained examiners such as Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners;

8. **Forensic interviews**, with the following parameters:

- a. Results of the interview will be used not only for law enforcement and prosecution purposes, but also for the identification of victims' needs such as social services, personal advocacy, case management, substance abuse treatment, and mental health services;
- b. Interviews are conducted in the context of a multi-disciplinary investigation and diagnostic team, or in a specialized setting such as a child advocacy center; and
- c. The interviewer is trained to conduct forensic interviews appropriate to the developmental age and abilities of children, or the developmental, cognitive, and physical or communication disabilities presented by adults.

9. **Transportation** of victims to receive services and to participate in criminal justice proceedings;

10. **Public awareness** and education presentations (including, but not limited to, the development of presentation materials, brochures, newspaper notices, and public service announcements) in schools, community centers, and other public forums that are designed to inform crime victims of specific rights and services and provide them with (or refer them to) services and assistance. **Important Note:** This is limited to up to 30% of the total request or \$50,000, whichever is lower.

11. **Transitional housing** —Subject to any restrictions on amount, length of time, and eligible crimes, set by the Office, transitional housing for victims (generally, those who have a particular need for such housing, and who cannot safely return to their previous housing, due to the circumstances of their victimization), including, but not limited to, travel, rental assistance, security deposits, utilities, and other costs incidental to the relocation to such housing, as well as voluntary support services such as childcare and counseling; and

12. **Relocation** —Subject to any restrictions on amount, length of time, and eligible crimes, set by the Office, relocation of victims (generally, where necessary for the safety and well-being of a victim), including, but not limited to, reasonable moving expenses, security deposits on housing, rental expenses, and utility startup costs. *Please note that requests that overlap with the State's Attorney Office (SAO) relocation funding will be removed from consideration as funding for this purpose already exists and is not prioritized under VOCA.

○ **Allowable Costs for Activities Supporting Direct Services**

1. Supporting activities for which VOCA funds may be used include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - a. Coordination of activities —Coordination activities that facilitate the provision of direct services, include, but are not limited to, State-wide coordination of victim notification systems, crisis response teams, multi-disciplinary teams, coalitions to support and assist victims, and other such programs, and salaries and expenses of such coordinators;
 - b. Supervision of direct service providers —Payment of salaries and expenses of supervisory staff in a project, when the Office determines that such staff are necessary and effectively facilitate the provision of direct services;
 - c. Multi-system, interagency, multi-disciplinary response to crime victim needs —Activities that support a coordinated and comprehensive response to crime victims needs by direct service providers, including, but not limited to, payment of salaries and expenses of direct service staff serving on child and adult abuse multidisciplinary investigation and treatment teams, coordination with federal agencies to provide services to victims of federal crimes and/or participation on Statewide or other task forces, work groups, and committees to develop protocols, interagency, and other working agreements;
 - d. Contracts for professional services —Contracting for specialized professional services (e.g., psychological/psychiatric consultation, legal services, interpreters), at a rate not to exceed a reasonable market rate, that are not available within the organization; **Please note that Contracts or Consultants that are primarily administrative will be capped at 30% under this funding source.**
 - e. Automated systems and technology —Subject to the provisions of the DOJ Grants Financial Guide and government-wide grant rules relating to acquisition, use and disposition of property purchased with federal funds, procuring automated systems and technology that support delivery of direct services to victims (e.g., automated information and referral systems, email systems that allow communications among victim service providers, automated case-tracking and management systems, smartphones, computer equipment, and victim notification systems), including, but not limited to, procurement of personnel, hardware, and other items, as determined by the Office after considering—
 - i. Whether such procurement will enhance direct services;
 - ii. How any acquisition will be integrated into and/or enhance the program's current system;
 - iii. The cost of installation;

- iv. The cost of training staff to use the automated systems and technology;
 - v. The ongoing operational costs, such as maintenance agreements, supplies; and
 - vi. How additional costs relating to any acquisition will be supported;
 - f. Volunteer trainings —Activities in support of training volunteers on how to provide direct services when such services will be provided primarily by volunteers; and
 - g. Restorative justice —Activities in support of opportunities for crime victims to meet with perpetrators, including, but not limited to, tribal community-led meetings and peace-keeping activities, if such meetings are requested or voluntarily agreed to by the victim (who may, at any point, withdraw) and have reasonably anticipated beneficial or therapeutic value to crime victims. Should the Office plan to fund this type of service, it will closely review the criteria for conducting these meetings, and is encouraged to discuss proposals with OVC prior to awarding VOCA funds for this type of activity. At a minimum, the following should be considered:—
 - i. The safety and security of the victim;
 - ii. The cost versus the benefit or therapeutic value to the victim;
 - iii. The procedures for ensuring that participation of the victim and offenders are voluntary and that the nature of the meeting is clear;
 - iv. The provision of appropriate support and accompaniment for the victim;
 - v. Appropriate debriefing opportunities for the victim after the meeting; and
 - vi. The credentials of the facilitators.
- **Allowable sub-recipient administrative costs**
1. Administrative costs for which VOCA funds may be used by sub-recipients include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - a. Administrative Personnel — Costs that are directly related to providing direct services and supporting activities, such as staff and coordinator salaries expenses (including fringe benefits), and a prorated share of liability insurance; **Administrative positions will be limited to 30% of that position's salary and fringe (e.g. CFO, Grant Manager, marketing personnel, administrative assistants, schedulers, desk greeters, etc.);**
 - b. VOCA administrative time —Costs of administrative time spent performing the following:
 - i. Completing VOCA-required time and attendance sheets and programmatic documentation, reports, and statistics;
 - ii. Collecting and maintaining crime victims' records;
 - iii. Conducting victim satisfaction surveys and needs assessments to improve victim services delivery in the project; and
 - iv. Funding the prorated share of audit costs.
 - v. **Administrative positions will be limited to 30% of that position's salary and fringe (e.g. CFO, Grant Manager, marketing personnel, administrative assistants, schedulers, desk greeters, etc.)**
 - c. Skills training —Training exclusively for developing the skills of direct service providers, including paid staff and volunteers (both VOCA-funded and not), so that they are better able to offer quality direct services, including, but not limited to, manuals, books, videoconferencing, electronic training resources, and other materials and resources relating to such training. **Training is limited to no more than two (2) staff per training and no more than three (3) trainings per agency.**
 - d. Training-related travel costs such as travel (in-State, regional, and national), meals, lodging, and registration fees for paid direct-service staff (both VOCA-funded and not);

Training-related travel expenses are limited to no more than two (2) staff per training and no more than three (3) trainings per agency.

- e. Organizational Expenses that are necessary and essential to providing direct services and other allowable victim services, including, but not limited to, the prorated costs of rent; utilities; local travel expenses for service providers; and required minor building adaptations necessary to meet the Department of Justice standards implementing the Americans with Disabilities Act and/or modifications that would improve the program's ability to provide services to victims;
- f. Equipment and furniture —Expenses of procuring furniture and equipment that facilitate the delivery of direct services (e.g., mobile communication devices, telephones, braille and TTY/TDD equipment, computers and printers, beepers, video cameras and recorders for documenting and reviewing interviews with children, two-way mirrors, colposcopes, digital cameras, and equipment and furniture for shelters, work spaces, victim waiting rooms, and children's play areas), except that the VOCA grant may be charged only the prorated share of an item that is not used exclusively for victim-related activities;
- g. Operating costs include but are not limited to—
 - i. Supplies;
 - ii. Equipment use fees;
 - iii. Property insurance;
 - iv. Printing, photocopying, and postage;
 - v. Courier service;
 - vi. Brochures that describe available services;
 - vii. Books and other victim-related materials;
 - viii. Computer backup files/tapes and storage;
 - ix. Security systems;
 - x. Design and maintenance of Web sites and social media; and
 - xi. Essential communication services, such as web hosts and mobile device services.
- h. Leasing or purchasing vehicles —Costs of leasing or purchasing vehicles, as determined by the SAA after considering, at a minimum, if the vehicle is essential to the provision of direct services;
- i. Maintenance, repair, or replacement of essential items —Costs of maintenance, repair, and replacement of items that contribute to maintenance of a healthy or safe environment for crime victims (such as a furnace in a shelter; and routine maintenance, repair costs, and automobile insurance for leased vehicles), as determined by the SAA after considering, at a minimum, if other sources of funding are available; and
- j. Project evaluation —Costs of evaluations of specific projects (in order to determine their effectiveness), within the limits set by SAAs.

BUDGET CATEGORY:

The following is a list of services and activity costs for each Budget Category that are eligible for support with VOCA/VOCG funds in an application. Please note that all costs must be reasonable, allocable, and allowable including indirect costs. **Prorated justification is required for each budget category and line item justification in the online GMS application.**

Please Note, to ensure victims are receiving the most critical services, GOCPP will discuss any significant underspending at the end of each quarter with subrecipients to see if an

updated spending plan is needed or if those funds should be de-obligated so they can be redistributed to other agencies in need to support more victims of crime.

PERSONNEL

- Direct Victim Services Personnel
- Administrative Personnel (max 30% of salary and fringe)

OPERATING EXPENSES

- Rent, Communication, Postage

TRAVEL

- Refer to Maryland's SFY travel/per diem rates:
 - Policies and procedures for meal reimbursement:
<https://dbm.maryland.gov/pages/mealtipreimbursement.aspx>
 - Travel reimbursement rate:
<https://dbm.maryland.gov/pages/fleetmanagementservices.aspx>
- Review federal U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) guidelines and IRS standard mileage rates:
 - GSA per diem rate: <https://www.gsa.gov/travel/plan-book/per-diem-rates> *
 - IRS standard mileage rate:
<https://www.irs.gov/tax-professionals/standard-mileage-rates> *

*Please be sure to check for updated rates after January 1, 2026.

CONTRACTUAL SERVICES

- Contracts
- Consultants - The requirements related to consultant rates apply to all Office awards whether funded by State or federal funds. The maximum allowable compensation rate for consultant services is \$81.25 per hour or \$650 per day. Rates above this threshold will be considered on a case-by-case basis and require prior approval. Additional information and the required procedures for requesting prior approval are found at <https://gocpp.maryland.gov/preauth-for-consultant-fees/>. Please note that charges at a rate above the established maximum rate that are incurred prior to the issuance of an Office written approval will be disallowed.
 - Please note that Contracts or Consultants that are primarily administrative will be capped at 30% under this funding source.

EQUIPMENT

- See equipment threshold guidelines in the [GMS Application Instructions](#)
- Request Property Inventory Record Forms (PIRF) for GMS upload

OTHER

- Upload Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) as applicable.

- Supplies
- Equipment with unit cost less than \$10,000

An applicant is strongly encouraged to refer to the [GMS Application Instructions](#) in tandem with this program-specific NOFA before submitting their application to our Office in the GMS. A [checklist](#) of required items can be found at the end of this document. Hard copy applications are not accepted.

Please visit the following page for additional guidance on suggested prorating strategies for subgrantees from our Federal partners:

- [Suggested Prorating Strategies for Victim Assistance Subgrantees](#)
- [Cost Allocation Information](#)

Refer to the [Distribution of Funds Section](#) below for post-award requirements. A successful applicant (post-award) must submit reimbursable financial reporting requests in the GMS. Costs must be incurred during the approved budget period and based on actual quarterly expenditures unless noted otherwise. To this end, funds in excess of those the applicant has the financial capacity to await quarterly reimbursement should not be requested.

C. Unallowable Costs

The following services, activities, and costs cannot be supported with the VOCA/VOCG funding:

- Alcoholic beverages
- Bad debt
- Bonuses or Commissions
- Corporate Formation (costs associated with incorporation fees, brokers' fees, fees to promoters, organizers or management consultants, attorneys, accountants, or investment counselor in connection with establishment or reorganization of an organization)
- Fundraising
- Honorarium
- Lobbying costs (including membership fees to organizations whose primary activity is lobbying)
- Meals (exception to consider food consumed by clients must be pre-approved.)
- Trinkets (items such as hats, mugs, portfolios, t-shirts, coins, and gift bags)
- Research and studies
- Active investigation and prosecution of criminal activities
- Construction/Capital expenses/Land Acquisition —Capital improvements; property losses and expenses; real estate purchases; mortgage payments; and construction (except as specifically allowed above).
- Compensation for victims of crime
- Medical care (except as specifically allowed above)
- Salaries and expenses of management —Salaries, benefits, fees, furniture, equipment, and other expenses of executive directors, board members, and other administrators (except as specifically allowed above).
- Previous Debt Obligations

- **Subawarding funds**
- Medical expenses are generally unallowable under VOCA.
 - For example positions such as FNE's, that can be billed under another funding source (such as SARU), are unallowable. Another example of an unallowable cost would be non-emergency medical care.
- Grant funds—may not be used for litigation or for any legal action against the State of Maryland.
- DEI/DEIA related activities
- Costs for activities that are potentially prohibited by federal law or any applicable federal executive order. (See e.g. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-orders/>.)

The list above is not exhaustive. The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy reserves the right to make additional budget reductions/restrictions and adjustments at its discretion.

D. Cost Share (Formerly Match)

GOCPP plans to award successful applicants with either a VOCA (federal) or a VOGC (state) award using this funding per the Office's discretion.

Information Required: To be eligible for funding under this VOCA/VOGC NOFA, each applicant must **clearly state** in the [Sustainability](#) section of the narrative **whether or not** the agency has the financial capacity to **provide a 20% cash or in-kind cost share**. For those able to provide a 20% cost share, the narrative should indicate how the cash or in-kind cost share will be provided in this section of the narrative. **Additionally, the budget must include a breakdown of the cost share line items. Bonus points will be provided** to agencies that can provide this cost share in the narrative and budget, and therefore are demonstrating substantial financial support from sources other than federal funding.

Details: For **VOCA** award recipients, a **twenty percent (20%) cash or in-kind cost share is required**. For example, for VOCA awardees receiving a \$100,000 award, the cost share is \$25,000 bringing the total project costs to \$125,000. Applicants are encouraged to use the [Grant Cost Share \(Match\) Calculator and Provisions](#) resource on the GOCPP website to ensure the cost share is calculated correctly.

The cost-share can be any allowable VOCA expenses that are not federally funded. Sub-recipients must maintain records which clearly show the source and amount of all cost share contributions.

The cost-share fund requirement may be waived if the local government or non-profit organization can demonstrate good cause as determined by the Office's Executive Director. *Please note the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy's Executive Director has the authority to approve or deny a cost share waiver request.*

VIII. Distribution of Funds & Reporting Requirements

Distribution of Funds and Reporting Requirements

For further post-award instructions, review the General Conditions and Special Conditions specific to your award in the GMS.

The Office will distribute awarded funds to grantees on a quarterly reimbursement of expenditures basis following the timely submission of corresponding quarterly fiscal and programmatic reports. These reports must be submitted through the Grants Management System. All programmatic electronic reports are due in the month following the end of the quarter. All reporting activity occurs through the Grant Management System, using the same User ID and password used for the application process.

Note: For subawards ending on June 30, it is highly recommended that subrecipients submit the last quarter financial and programmatic reports as soon as possible, and within the subsequent 30 days following the end of June. This will help avoid delays in reimbursement, as the State will be in the process of closing out the Fiscal Year.

Please Note, to ensure victims are receiving the most critical services, GOCPP will discuss any significant underspending at the end of each quarter with subrecipients to see if an updated spending plan is needed or if those funds should be de-obligated so they can be redistributed to other agencies in need to support more victims of crime.

A. Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)

The Office encourages the use of electronic funds transfer (EFT). To obtain the appropriate form, the address to submit the form, and a general overview, including FAQs, refer to the following website: <https://marylandtaxes.gov/divisions/gad/eft-program.php>.

B. Supplanting, Transparency, and Accountability

Supplanting is the use of Office grant funds to replace State or local funds that were previously appropriated/budgeted for, or otherwise would have been spent on, the specific purpose(s) for which this sub-award has been awarded. Any salaries, positions, personnel expenses, contractual expenses, equipment, travel, and other expenses paid for with Office grant funds must be used to supplement your organization's existing budget and may not replace any funds already included in your entity's existing or projected budget.

A strong emphasis is being placed on accountability and transparency. Grantees must be prepared to track, report on, and document specific outcomes, benefits, and expenditures attributable to grant funds. Misuse of grant funds may result in a range of penalties including suspension of current and future funds and civil/criminal penalties.

IX. Application Checklist

What an Application **MUST** Include by the Deadline to be Considered for Funding:

- ☐ Face Sheet
- ☐ Project Summary
- ☐ Narrative
 - ☐ [Overall Organization Information \(Word Limit: 500\)](#)
 - ☐ [Problem Statement/Needs Justification \(Word Limit: 500\)](#)
 - ☐ [Program Purpose Area \(Word Limit: 150\)](#)
 - ☐ [Project Design \(Word Limit: 750\)](#)
 - ☐ [Goals & Objectives \(Word Limit: 1,500\)](#)
 - ☐ [Data Collection Plan \(Word Limit: 250\)](#)
 - ☐ [Grant Personnel \(Word Limit: 500\)](#)
 - ☐ [Sustainability \(Word Limit: 200\)](#)
 - ☐ [Applicant Disclosure of Pending Applications Statement \(Word Limit: 150\)](#)
 - ☐ [Budget Details and Spending Plan \(Word Limit: 750\)](#)
 - ☐ [Unique Entity Identifier \(UEI\) and SAM.gov Expiration Date](#)
 - ☐ [Person Completing the Project Narrative](#)
- ☐ Budget and Budget Justification
 - ☐ Personnel
 - ☐ Operating Expenses
 - ☐ Travel
 - ☐ Contractual Services (upload existing relevant contracts)
 - ☐ Equipment
 - ☐ Other
- ☐ Budget Prioritization

The following documents must be uploaded into the GMS for an application to be considered complete:

- ☐ Signed Certified Assurances **REQUIRED**
- ☐ Signed Certification Regarding Lobbying **REQUIRED**
- ☐ Most Recent Organizational Chart **REQUIRED**
- ☐ Screenshot Upload of SAM.gov/Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) Registration **REQUIRED**
- ☐ Proof of 501 (c)(3) Status **REQUIRED for all NEW nonprofit applicants**
- ☐ **Current W-9 Form REQUIRED**
- ☐ [Equal Employment Opportunity Form](#) **REQUIRED**
- ☐ **NEW:** [Certification of Applicable Financial Reporting Requirements and Required Financial Report Uploading](#) **REQUIRED**
- ☐ **NEW:** [Determination of Suitability to Interact with Minors Form](#) **REQUIRED**
- ☐ **NEW:** [ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY QUESTIONNAIRE \(OCQ\)](#) with applicable attachments **REQUIRED**
- ☐ Form 990 or 990 EZ (only required is nonprofit organization) **REQUIRED**

_____ Single audit if your organization spends more than \$1M+ per fiscal year in federal funds
REQUIRED

_____ Financial Statements or Single Audit Report **REQUIRED**

_____ Copies of results from audits, examinations, or monitoring procedures **REQUIRED**

***More information on each item above can be found in the [GMS Application Instructions](#).**

SFY2027 VOCA/VOCG NOFA END



Grants Management System (GMS) Application Instructions

Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP)*
100 Community Place
Crownsville, Maryland 21032-2022
<https://gocpp.maryland.gov>
(410) 697-9338

Wes Moore, Governor
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor
Dorothy J. Lennig, Esq., Executive Director

Note: All applications must be submitted online in the [Grant Management System \(GMS\)](#).

Hard copy applications are not accepted.

*** Note to Applicants:** In order to be considered as a successful application, an eligible entity must propose strategies consistent with guidelines provided in two documents, updated annually, by GOCPP: *GMS Application Instructions* (rev. January 2026) and *program-specific Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)*. All required documents in the NOFA checklist must be received in the GMS Portal by the submission deadline. References to the adoption of federal addendum terms/conditions, and [2 CFR, Part 200](#) are listed based on the best knowledge available to GOCPP. See specific references to <https://www.ojp.gov/funding/part200uniformrequirements> and <https://acf.gov/grants/manage-grant/grant-award/award-terms>.

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INTRODUCTION

The [Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy \(Office\)](#) is the designated State Administering Agency (SAA) for Maryland. The Office allocates resources statewide and acts to distribute, monitor, and report on spending under many state and federal grant assistance programs. The Office plans, promotes, and funds efforts with government entities, private organizations, and the community to advance public policy, enhance public safety, reduce crime and juvenile delinquency, and serve victims. The Office places a significant emphasis on instituting strategic planning to align priorities at the State and local levels, to ensure it remains ahead of threats that impact the State, and to continue to be good stewards of the funds administered. Refer to [Maryland's Comprehensive State Crime Control and Prevention Plan](#)

Grant funding is one of several tools that the Office utilizes to achieve its objectives per [Executive Order 01.01.2024.05](#), Code of MD Regulations (COMAR), and the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) [2 CFR Part 200 - Federal Uniform Guidance](#) (UG)¹. Starting at the beginning of each calendar year, the Office issues a [Notice of Funding Availability \(NOFA\)](#)² for applicable [program-specific grant programs](#) based on an annual budget appropriation. Please refer to the technical assistance dates listed in each program-specific NOFA. Eligible entities are encouraged to review annual updates to the programmatic and financial requirements described in the program-specific NOFA. Instructions to help applicants navigate the online application portal and submit a complete application request are available at [Grants Management System \(GMS\) Application Instructions](#). For more information, contact the Program Staff as specified in the program-specific NOFA or email support@goccp.freshdesk.com by the NOFA due date.

Note: All applications must be submitted online in the [Grant Management System \(GMS\)](#) following the guidelines outlined below. Paper or email applications are not accepted. Post-award, grant funds are issued on a quarterly, reimbursable basis with selected exceptions if noted within specific NOFAs.

I. APPLICATION PROCESS

All applications for grants administered by the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy must be submitted utilizing the web-based application process, which may be accessed at <https://gocpp.maryland.gov/> and clicking on **GRANT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**, or by going directly to the login screen using the URL: <https://grants.goccp.maryland.gov>.

In order to use the Office's web-based application you must have a User ID.

For new applicants, go to the following web URL to obtain instructions and the information required to obtain a User ID and password: <https://gocpp.maryland.gov/grants/requesting-access/>

The last day to request a User ID is specified within each Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). If you have previously applied through the web, use your same User ID and password.

If you have previously applied to the Office using the GMS, **but do not have your User ID, or are having technical issues with the system**, contact the helpdesk via email at support@goccp.freshdesk.com for assistance. The Grant Management System (GMS) Help Desk operates Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 5 PM. The normal response time is 24 - 72 hours.

If you need assistance completing the program-specific information required in the online application, please contact the **Program Staff** specified in the program-specific NOFA. Paper or

¹ Updates to 2 CFR 200 (UG) are effective on or after October 1, 2024. GMS Application Instructions and SFY 27 program-specific NOFA documents are updated to reflect relevant changes.

² Competitive NOFAs are available at <https://gocpp.maryland.gov/grants/>.

email applications are not accepted.

II. APPLICATION WEBSITE WORKSHEET

NOTICE TO ALL APPLICANTS

The information collected on the grant application form is collected for the purposes of the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy's function. Failure to provide all of this information may result in the denial of your application. The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy is a government entity; upon submission, this application is considered public information. The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy does not sell collected grant information. Under the Maryland Public Information Act (PIA) (MD State Government Code Ann. 10-617 (h)(5)), you may request in writing to review grant award documentation. Please send those requests to the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy, 100 Community Place, Crownsville, Maryland 21032-2022. For more information on the Public Information Act, please click here: <https://gocpp.maryland.gov/public-information-act/>

Please refer to the **Grant Menu Screen** in the GMS. All requested information must be provided in each section of the GMS in a narrative form.

1. FACE SHEET TAB INSTRUCTIONS

a. *Project Title*

The project title should be brief, precise, and reflect the proposed strategy. For example: "MCIN Howard County: Heroin Coordinator and Domestic Violence Shelter." (**Word Limit: 10**)

b. *Applicant Agency*

The unit of local government (county, city, town, or township), State agency, institution of higher learning, or state/local public, private, community based or non-profit entity that is eligible to apply for grant funds. Full details about the Applicant Agency (Federal ID, Unique Entity Identifier (UEI), etc.) may be viewed by clicking the corresponding underlined organization field. If any information needs to be revised, contact the Program Staff.

If the Government, Township, or Board of Commissioners mandates that the County Executive, Mayor, or Commissioner sign all grant award documents (for all subordinate agencies) then the Government, Township, or Board of Commissioners must be the Applicant Agency.

- **DUNS Number**³: Insert 00-000-0000 only (ie., 9 zeros)

On April 4, 2022, the DUNS number used across the federal government changed to a twelve-character identification code assigned by the federal [System of Award Management \(SAM\)](#) registration process. All entities seeking the Office's grant funds must have an active registration in the [SAM.gov](#) with a valid expiration date. Applicants must enter the 12 character identification in the narrative section of GMS.

- **SAM Expiration Date**⁴: Enter your SAM.gov expiration date only (MM/DD/YYYY format). If you are experiencing an issue, please enter 12/31/2099 in this data field and include a sentence or two explaining this [workaround](#) under the UEI and [SAM.gov](#) expiration narrative section in the GMS portal.

³ DUN & Bradstreet Number feature is defunct in GMS. Enter 9 zeros only and enter the 12 character identification in the narrative section.

⁴ For help with first-time registration, visit the Federal Service Desk, [fsd.gov](#)

SAM.gov Federal Registration Instruction: Every applicant entity must comply with all applicable SAM.gov unique entity identifier(UEI) requirements. SAM.gov is the repository for certain standard information about federal financial assistance applicants, recipients, and subrecipients. The UEI is a unique twelve-character identification code assigned to your organization by the SAM.gov upon registration.

Once registered, entities must complete annual renewals to maintain an active status. It is recommended that you begin the SAM.gov registration or renewal process **30 days prior** to any NOFA deadlines to allow for the time necessary to complete the full process, including SAM.gov's entity validation process. If you intend to apply for a specific opportunity, refer to the grant program-specific NOFA, and plan your SAM.gov registration accordingly. For additional support, visit [SAM.gov Help](#). **A screenshot of an active registration must be uploaded in the document section of the GMS. Active registration must be maintained throughout the grant life cycle.**

SAM.gov Public Search Record: When registering, please check the box that allows the record to be a "public display record." This will enable periodic GOCPP compliance reviews of subgrantee SAM.gov status.

Access to SAM.GOV: [SAM.gov](#). There is no cost for this service.

c. *Authorized Official*

The Authorized Official must possess the authority to enter into a legal agreement on behalf of the entity and bind it to the award terms and conditions. The Authorized Official on the submitted application is the County Executive, Duly Authorized Official of the local unit of Government, Mayor, Commissioner, Town Administrator (if confirmed), President (if confirmed), or if agencies are permitted to apply directly, the head of the agency receiving the subaward.

An agency's Authorized Official may be viewed by clicking his/her underlined name. A popup box will appear after clicking their name. Procedures for revising an agency's authorized official can be obtained by contacting support@goccp.freshdesk.com; or by viewing the General Conditions at <https://gocpp.maryland.gov/grants/general-conditions/>

d. *Implementing Agency*

The name of the entity that is responsible for the operation of the project. Full details about the Implementing Agency (Federal ID, Unique Entity Identifier (UEI), etc.) may be viewed by clicking the corresponding underlined organization field. Contact the Program Manager to make any revisions.

e. *'Is service site?' Checkbox*

Clicking these checkboxes automatically adds the Applicant and/or Implementing Agency to the Service Site tab, which documents the location/locations in which the project will be implemented (more details below in "[Service Site Tab Instructions](#)").

f. *Proposed Start/End Dates*

Start and end dates are determined by the parameters of the program-specific NOFA and are prepopulated. Projects may not exceed twelve (12) months, unless explicitly stated in the NOFA, or commence before the NOFA defined start date. Grants must start on the first day of a month and end on the last day of a month.

g. *Preparer Information*

Enter information about the person completing the application, including name, phone number, and email address.

h. Officers' Tab Instructions

To add a new officer or new contact to the Grant Management System, please view the instructions located here: <https://gocpp.maryland.gov/grants/requesting-access/>.

i. Project Director

Select the person who will be responsible for oversight and administration of the project on behalf of the Applicant Agency. The Project Director is a primary contact for the grant who will receive communications from the Office and will be responsible for disseminating information to others within the Applicant Agency as needed. Selections are limited to Implementing/Applicant Agency personnel in the Grant Management System. To make changes to personnel, view the instructions located here: <https://gocpp.maryland.gov/grants/requesting-access/>.

j. Fiscal Officer

Select the person who will be responsible for financial reporting and record keeping for the project. The Fiscal Officer is a primary contact for the grant who will receive communications from the Office and will be responsible for disseminating information to others within the Applicant Agency as needed. You may select any contact currently in the Grant Management System. Use the search windows to search by last name, organization, and/or job title. To make changes to personnel, view the instructions located here: <https://gocpp.maryland.gov/grants/requesting-access/>

k. Civil Rights Contact

Select the Applicant Agency's point of contact for handling internal civil rights violation complaints (usually a Human Resources or Personnel Manager). You may select any contact currently in the Grant Management System. Use the search windows to search by last name, organization, and/or job title. To make changes to personnel, view the instructions located here: <https://gocpp.maryland.gov/grants/requesting-access/>. For additional information, please refer to the guidance provided for this role on completing [Civil Rights Compliance](#) forms as applicable.

l. Service Sites Tab Instructions

If the service site is either the Applicant Agency and/or the Implementing Agency, select the associated "Is service site?" check box/boxes on the application Face Sheet. Otherwise, provide the site name and full address, **for the location/locations in which the project will be implemented**. If there is more than one location, please enter complete information for each site. If the project has a statewide or countywide impact, please enter "statewide," or "county-wide" in the 'Site Name' field and the county served in the 'City' field. Whether an address is provided, or "state-wide" or "county-wide" is entered, the 'City' field and nine (9) digit zip-code **must** be provided.

Example:

Site Name:	Anytown Police Department
Address:	123 Main Street
	Some City, MD 21000-0570

OR if the location is 'County-wide' or 'Statewide', **you must still list a City and 9-digit zip for funding source reporting.**

2. SUMMARY TAB INSTRUCTIONS : Per the NOFA, applicant must adhere to word limits for each narrative response, to include headers per section.

The Project Summary should provide a concise summary of your proposal and be limited to **100 words or less**. Use the template provided below for your project summary.

The ____ (Implementing Agency's Name) ¹ ____ (Project Title) ¹ ____ program helps to
____ ² in ____ ³. The program ____ ⁴. Program funds support personnel,
equipment, and training. ⁵

Make the following additions/changes to the above template:

1. The beginning of the first sentence contains the Implementing Agency's name and the Project Title. The project title should be brief, precise, and reflect what is being funded.
2. Indicate what the project proposes to accomplish in general terms (examples include: reduce existing gaps in services, foster collaboration and cooperation among partner agencies and stakeholders, provide direct services to...., etc.).
3. Indicate the service area covered by the project. Local projects should list the specific county. Multijurisdictional projects should list all counties covered, and statewide projects should list Maryland.
4. Include one to two sentences describing the project's main function and who the project benefits/serves.
5. The last sentence summarizes the budget categories proposed to be funded. Depending on the request this could include: personnel, operating expenses, travel, contractual services, equipment and/or other.

3. NARRATIVE TAB INSTRUCTIONS

GOCPP has made changes to the **SFY 27** application instructions. The requirements of the GMS narrative are explained below. All applications must adhere to word limits for each narrative response, **to include headers per section and subsection**. Much of the information is required to be submitted in a numerical, outline format, which should aid in a concise application to meet maximum word requirements.

Note: The applicant is responsible for ensuring each response adheres to the word limit and includes headers summarizing the content or data provided. Although the GMS allows responses to exceed the limit, the word and character counts are displayed in the bottom right-hand corner of the section. **Please note that any words exceeding the limit will not be read, reviewed, or considered.**

Applications that do not adhere to these requirements, as well as providing incomplete narratives and attachments, may be disqualified during the initial technical review. GOCPP encourages applicants to draft their narrative in a word processing program with headers for each section (Word, Google Docs, etc.), then transfer to the Grants Management System (GMS) to aid in ensuring technical requirements.

Application Tip: A double-spaced page of 12-point Times New Roman font typically contains between 250-350 words.

A. Overall Organization Information (Word Limit: 500)

Provide the **following** information about your organization and/or unit in the outline format below:

- a. **Mission Statement:** State your agency's mission and upload your most recent Organizational Chart into the GMS.
- b. **Brief Overview:** Include your organization's history, primary services, needs being addressed, and highlight any key milestones and achievements in the field.
- c. **Key Organizational Information (in bullet format):**
 - i. Total number of full-time equivalent (FTE) employees within your organization.
 - ii. Total current organizational budget.

- iii. Percentage of your organizational budget this application is requesting.
- iv. Primary jurisdictions your organization serves (e.g., counties, cities, neighborhoods).

Also, refer to the NOFA for any program-specific requirements that should be included in this narrative section.

B. Problem Statement/Needs Justification (Word Limit: 500)

- a. Summarize the project you are requesting in this application. Include the following information in the outline format below:
 - i. What services are you proposing to provide through this project?
 - ii. How do the services fit into your agency's overall mission?
 - iii. Explain why your organization is well-suited to carry out the project.
 - iv. Explain the need for the project supported by statistics, preferably local or regional data.
 - v. Summarize any barriers you anticipate or have experienced specific to this project and state how this project will address the barriers.
 - vi. In SFY 27, applicants partnering with organizations in the Governor's Office for Children's Engaging Neighborhoods, Organizations, Unions, Governments and Households [\(ENOUGH\) Grant Program](#) initiative will receive bonus points. The 27 ENOUGH-eligible communities, which have high levels of concentrated child poverty, can be found here: [map](#). If applicable, summarize your collaboration with the initiative and upload a letter of support from at least one project partner (ENOUGH Quarterbacks) in the designated community.
- b. **Summarize if the request is for new or continuation funding.**
 In an outline format, applicants must describe if this request is for New or Continuation Funding?
 - i. Did your agency receive GOCPP funding in the most recent funding cycle for a similar project? (Y/N)
 - 1. If no, provide the efforts your organization has made to meet the needs identified in this request.
 - 2. If yes, respond to the following questions about the grant-funded project using the outline format below:
 - a. How much was your award (match, if applicable, should not be included)?
 - b. List all funding sources and amounts that supported this project in the past fiscal year.
 - c. List the services provided last year with this funding.
 - d. If requesting an increase in funding through this application, detail the need for additional funds and provide a brief summary on how the additional funds will be used and lead to improved results.
 - e. Describe the status of spending on your current award: include the percentage of funds spent to date and whether you are on track to spend the full award by the end date.
 - f. Explain any delays or adjustments in spending. If there were any delays please note the attempts your organization made to get the project back on track.

Also, refer to the NOFA for any program-specific requirements that should be included in this narrative section.

C. Program Purpose Area (Word Limit: 150)

In this section, detail how your requested project aligns with the priorities within this Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). **If applicable**, also include the purpose/priority area statement(s) that align with the requirement section of the program-specific NOFA, and explain how the proposed project intends to address the purpose area(s). **Also, refer to the NOFA for any program-specific requirements that should be included in this narrative section.**

D. Project Design (Word Limit: 750)

Describe in detail how the proposed project will address the problem identified. At a minimum, the design must include the following elements and demonstrate the anticipated impacts on the target population and within the community:

- a. **Project Implementation:** Describe how your organization will implement the project and the specific activities or services that will address the identified need. If the project is client- or victim-centered, explain how individuals will move through the services provided.
- b. **Outreach:** Explain how your organization will make the project or its services known to the intended audience or target population.
- c. **Best Practices and Methodology:** Describe how this project aligns with best practices, industry standards, and/or evidence-based approaches. If the project does not align with these standards, explain why and describe the rationale for your approach.
- d. **Collaboration and Partnerships:** Identify other programs, organizations, or stakeholders involved in or impacted by the project and describe their roles and contributions.

The Office strongly encourages the use of data and evidence in program development for criminal justice, juvenile justice, and crime victim services. For additional information and resources on best practices or evidence-based programs, see the [OJP Resource Guide](#). **Also, refer to the NOFA for any program-specific requirements that should be included in this narrative section.**

E. Goals & Objectives (Word Limit: 1,500)

Goals identify the program's intended short and long-term results. Goals are broad, overarching, often qualitative, targets of the requested project. They identify and describe the substantive changes in the targeted population's knowledge, behavior, or disposition. Typically each goal would have 3-5 related objectives.

Objectives are specific, measurable tasks and activities that help achieve each goal. They are clear, time-bound, and quantifiable, and specify the target level of achievement.

The need for each budget line item as it relates to specific project objectives must be addressed within the Goals and Objectives section of the narrative. Budget line items not described within the Goals and Objectives category may not be funded.

Please note that **if your agency is requesting the continuation** of a project previously funded, your application must include a description of how the goals and objectives continue or build upon previous efforts.

At a minimum, the implementation must include the following program elements in the outline format below:

- a. **Goal:** Enter a broad, overarching goal of your project.
 - i. **Objective:** Enter a specific, measurable objective that supports the goal.
 1. **Project Activities:** Describe what the project will do to achieve the objective(s).

2. Resources: List the key resources needed to complete these activities and ensure they align with your budget (e.g., staff, supplies, equipment, partnerships, technology).
3. Program Measurement: Explain how success will be measured and report your agency's results from last year, if applicable. Include expected [outputs and outcomes](#) for each objective. Note: Grantees will report on these performance measures in quarterly progress reports.
4. Past Performance (for continuation projects only): Provide data from prior progress reports or performance measures that support the expected results.
5. Timeline: Outline key tasks, responsible staff, target dates, and deliverables (e.g., reports, manuals, attendance logs).

Also, refer to the NOFA for any program-specific requirements that should be included in this narrative section.

F. Data Collection Plan (Word Limit: 250)

In this section, detail how your organization will gather, track, and assess the effectiveness of the program measurements described in the Goals and Objectives section. This process should include collection methods (surveys, interviews, focus groups, attendance records, etc.) and the data systems (Excel, Apricot, Google forms) and tools that your organization will use to collect and measure the outputs and changes projected (outcomes).

It is important to note that all successful subrecipients will be required to report on the program measurements (outputs and outcomes) identified in the Goals and Objectives section as part of quarterly progress reporting questions. This should be incorporated into the Data Collection Plan.

Also, refer to the NOFA for any program-specific requirements that should be included in this narrative section.

G. Grant Personnel (Word Limit: 500)

Qualifications and Experience of Implementing Agencies: Provide a brief description of the Implementing Agency's experience and achievements that qualify the agency to conduct **this specific project**. For nonprofit applicants, please describe your organizational structure to include governance/board oversight.

Key Grant Personnel: List the names and provide a short professional biography of the project director, key consultants, and the assigned fiscal officer. If one staff member is serving in multiple key grant personnel roles, also provide information for a secondary contact. Describe the role of personnel listed on the [FACE SHEET TAB INSTRUCTIONS](#) in the GMS.

Grant Funded Personnel

You must include the following information **for each grant funded position requested within the budget** using the outline format below:

- a. Position title which must be consistent with the title in the budget line item.
- b. How the position is currently funded (i.e., provide the entire budget for each position. If funded by more than one source, list percentages for each funding source). If the request differs from current funding, also include the proposed funding breakdown for the current request.

Please note:

1. Applicants must determine the appropriate methodology for allocating shared costs that are budgeted and charged to multiple grants. Reimbursable funds charged to multiple costs in the accounting and financial management system must be distributed in proportion using the principles of reasonable, allowable, and allocable expenditures per budget category and line item, as applicable.
2. Time and Effort reports (Timesheets) must be maintained for all personnel included in the grant project. Refer to <https://gocpp.maryland.gov/grants/tips-and-guidance/> for more information.
3. **Note:** All documentation submitted to the Office is subject to the Public Information Act. If your organization prefers not to submit names of staff, it must develop a tracking system to be used across all GOCPP funding sources which clearly identifies positions using non personal identifiable information within the application. This information must be made available upon request.
4. Do not enter any sensitive personally identifiable information (PII), business identifiable information, or any other sensitive or personal information.
5. Funding request for line items must be limited to staff or project supported by this application.

Also, refer to the NOFA for any program-specific requirements that should be included in this narrative section.

H. Sustainability (Word Limit: 200)

Sustainability ensures this project continues to have long term impacts even after grant funding ends. In this section, provide details in the following outline format:

- a. What percentage of your organization's full-time equivalent (FTE) staff is this application requesting?
- b. For non-profit and other relevant applicants, describe your organization's strategy to diversify funding sources.
- c. What other funding has been sought or secured to support this project?
- d. What prospects exist for continued financing of the project when grant funds are terminated (planned future funding sources, proposed jurisdictional planning efforts, partnerships, match funds, etc.).

Note: Post award, grant funds are reimbursed on a quarterly basis unless otherwise stated in the NOFA. **Also, refer to the NOFA for any program-specific requirements that should be included in this narrative section.**

I. Applicant Disclosure of Pending Applications Statement (Word Limit: 150)

Although supplanting is prohibited, the leveraging of federal funding is encouraged. In instances where leveraging occurs, all federal grant funds must be tracked and reported separately and may not be used to fund the same line items. Additionally, federal funds may not be used as a cost sharing match for other federal awards.

Your organization must disclose **all** pending grant applications for the same project (identical cost items) requested under this solicitation.

In this section, applicants that have pending applications as described above must provide the following information about pending applications submitted within the last 12 months in the outline format below:

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

- d. the amount of the funding request as applicable

If your organization **does not have pending applications** as described above, include a statement to this effect in this section (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.”).

J. Budget Details and Spending Plan (Word Limit: 750)

- a. **Budget Plan:** Provide the following information in the outline format below:
 - i. Describe how this request supplements, and does not supplant, the existing budget. **Supplanting** occurs when a state or unit of local government reduces state or local funds for an activity, specifically because federal funds are available (or expected to be available) to fund that same activity. **Supplementing** occurs when federal funds are used to enhance existing state or local funds for program activities.
 - ii. Detail the methodology your organization uses to prorate the requested funds.
 - iii. Identify the proration rate(s) your organization uses for budget categories. Reimbursable funds charged to multiple costs must be distributed in proportion using the principles of reasonable, allowable, and allocable expenditures per budget category and line item, as applicable. Note: Your organization must have a written policy in place concerning prorating and/or the calculations used, and provide the policy upon request.
 - iv. Provide the justification and/or formula for the proration rate(s) used. **Note:** Failure to provide the proration rate and justification/formula will result in denial of the requested line item(s) or adjustment to the request at the discretion of the Office.
 - v. Funding requests for line items must be limited to staff or projects supported by this application.

Please visit the following page for additional guidance on suggested prorating strategies for subgrantees from one of our federal partners:

<https://ovc.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh226/files/media/document/ovc-victim-assistance-prorating-strategies-for-subgrantees-winter-2020.pdf>

- b. **Spending Plan:** Detail the implementation **timeline of each budget line item** within the grant award period.

Note: The need for each budget line item as it relates to specific project objectives must be addressed within the Goals and Objectives section of the narrative. Budget line items not described within the Goals and Objectives category may not be funded. Also, **refer to the NOFA for any program-specific requirements that should be included in this narrative section.**

K. Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and SAM.gov Expiration Date:

Enter your entity's 12-character alphanumeric Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) issued by [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov). List a valid expiration date. If you are experiencing an issue, please enter 12/31/2099 in this data field and include a sentence or two explaining this workaround under the UEI and [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov) expiration narrative section in the GMS portal.

L. Person Completing the Project Narrative:

Include person completing project narrative: Include the following: Name, Job Title, Organization Name, Telephone, Fax, and E-mail address. **Note:** Please provide Organizational Capacity

Questionnaire (OCQ) attestation in the GMS text box. Refer to Section 12, OCQ Qualtrics instructions below.

4. LETTERS OF SUPPORT/COMMITMENT

If listed as a requirement in the NOFA, submit letters of commitment by partners who will participate in the execution of the project or whose cooperation or support is necessary for its success. Applications that do not adhere to these requirements, and submit incomplete applications with missing required attachments in the checklist, may be disqualified during the initial technical review. Letters of support/commitment will only be accepted when they are uploaded with the electronic application submission. Letters should be addressed to the Executive Director of the GOCPP. **If required, support letters must be updated in the Document section of the GMS by the due date.**

Also, refer to the NOFA and NOFA Checklist for any program-specific requirements that should be included in this section.

5. BUDGET TAB INSTRUCTIONS

Complete a detailed budget for the proposed project. All 'Total Budget' fields will be rounded by the Grant Management System to the nearest whole dollar.

Applicant designated prioritization of line items is required for all applications having multiple line items. This prioritization will be considered should budgets need to be reduced. This requirement is addressed following the Budget Tab Instructions under 'Budget Priority Tab.'

Budgets must be clear and specific. Budgets must reflect one year of spending, unless stated otherwise in the program specific NOFA and where applicable, be adjusted to reflect the start date and holidays. Funding requests for line items must be limited to staff or projects proposed in this application. The Office **reserves the right to reduce budgets**. Grant funds are reimbursed on a quarterly basis unless otherwise noted in the NOFA.

Cost Share/Match: Each budget line item must include a justification entry proportional to the application request. Total project cost for each budget category tab in GMS may include cost-share funds as required by the program-specific NOFA. Applicants may satisfy cost-share requirements with either Cash or In-Kind services, including volunteer hours, as applicable per program-specific NOFA requirements. Please refer to the [Grant Cost Share Calculator and Provisions](#) as applicable.

The cash cost-share may take the form of funds contributed by local governments such as agency or county budgets. The use of unrestricted funding is recommended for non-profits. Entities must maintain records which clearly show the source and amount of all cost share contributions.

Applicants must refer to each program-specific NOFA to determine other cost-share restrictions. The cost-share fund requirement may be waived if the local government or nonprofit organization can demonstrate good cause as determined by the Office's Executive Director.

The justification sections must contain brief statements (one to two sentences per line item) that explain **each line item** and its relevance to the project goals and objectives. **Do not state "See Narrative, Goals, or Objectives"**. Refer to the Grant Management System training videos for further instructions <https://goccp.maryland.gov/grants/gms-help-videos/>.

Allowable Costs⁵

General guidance on cost allocation and prorate - Applicants must determine the appropriate methodology for allocating shared costs that are budgeted and charged to multiple grants. Reimbursable funds charged to multiple costs in the accounting and financial management system must be distributed in proportion using the principles of reasonable, allowable, and allocable expenditures per budget category and line item, as applicable.

For example, organizations:

- Must explain the process used to prorate the funds between the sources which includes funding sources and the general operating budget
- Identify the different rates in the spending plan.
- The organization must have a written policy in place concerning prorating and/or the calculations used.
- A copy of the prorating policy must be provided when requested.

Please visit the following page for additional guidance on suggested prorating strategies for subgrantees from one of our federal partners:

<https://ovc.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh226/files/media/document/ovc-victim-assistance-prorating-strategies-for-subgrantees-winter-2020.pdf>

New Resource: Sample Budget Spreadsheet Tool: For assistance in developing application budgets to include all required elements, the Office has developed a [Budget Assistance Spreadsheet](#) as a resource. Applicants are encouraged to complete this spreadsheet as a tool, then transfer all information in the online Grants Management System (GMS).

Note: *The use of this tool is not required and **should not be uploaded** in the GMS. The Budget entered into the GMS Budget Tab is the only budget that will be reviewed and considered for each application.*

Unallowable Costs

The following services, activities, and costs cannot be supported by the Office:

- Alcoholic beverages
- Bonuses or Commissions
- Construction/Capital Expenses/Land Acquisition
- Corporate Formation (costs associated with incorporation fees, brokers' fees, fees to promoters, organizers or management consultants, attorneys, accountants, or investment counselor in connection with establishment or reorganization of an organization)
- Fundraising
- Honorarium
- Lobbying costs (including membership fees to organizations whose primary activity is lobbying)
- Meals (exception to consider food consumed by clients must be pre-approved.)
- Previous Debt Obligations
- Trinkets (items such as hats, mugs, portfolios, t-shirts, coins, and gift bags)

Please note that all costs must be reasonable, allocable, and allowable. Additionally, the Office's funding is reimbursable quarterly unless otherwise stated. To this end, applicants must consider if the entity has the financial capacity to await reimbursement following each reporting period.

⁵ Financial reviews are conducted per 2 C.F.R. § 200.413 Direct costs Principles: Reasonable, Allowability and Allocability of expenditures aligned with each program-specific NOFA purpose. Budget justifications will be reviewed to include adequate statements by the applicant related to proportional allocation of costs referenced 2 CFR § 200.405.

The list above is not exhaustive. The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy reserves the right to make additional budget reductions/restrictions and adjustments at its discretion.

PERSONNEL

The salaries and fringe benefits for staff required to implement the project are listed in the personnel category. Note: Each requested position/title must be consistent with the title in the 'Key Grant Personnel' portion of the narrative. Consultants must be listed in Contractual Services.

Note: Time and Effort reports (Timesheets) must be maintained for **all personnel** included in the grant project. Refer to the bottom of the page at <https://gocpp.maryland.gov/grants/tips-and-guidance/time-and-effort-reports/> for more information.

For budget categorizing, personnel expenses cover salaries and wages for staff employed directly by your agency, including associated costs like FICA and fringe benefits. In contrast, contractual services, which should be entered into the Contractual budget category, pertain to agreements with external organizations or individuals performing services, where FICA and fringe benefits are generally not applicable since these entities are not treated as employees.

For each personnel position, list salary and fringe benefits as separate line items.

Original Grant Application Budget									
	Help	Budget Category	Total Grant Funds	Total Cash Match	Total In Kind	Total Budget		Print	Refresh
▼	?	Personnel	\$22,000.00	\$11,000.00	\$0.00	\$33,000.00			
	Add new record								Refresh
	Description of Position	Salary Type	Funding	Wage Type	Wage Amount	Total Budget	Just.	Priority	Edit Delete
▼	Community Outreach Coordinator								\$22,000.00
	Community Outreach Coordinator	Salary	Grant Funds	Annual	\$60,000.00	\$20,000.00	[View/Edit]	2	✎ ✕
	Community Outreach Coordinator	Fringe	Grant Funds	Annual	\$20,000.00	\$2,000.00	[View/Edit]	3	✎ ✕
▼	Community Outreach Trainier								\$11,000.00
	Community Outreach Trainier	Salary	Cash Match	Annual	\$40,000.00	\$10,000.00	[View/Edit]	4	✎ ✕
	Community Outreach Trainier	Fringe	Cash Match	Annual	\$10,000.00	\$1,000.00	[View/Edit]	5	✎ ✕

- The 'Description of Position' field must contain the title of the position.
- Position line items (salary and fringe) are grouped via the 'Description of Position' field.
- After completing the first Position's line item, use the dropdown to add additional budget items to the position. Include Grant Funds request and/or Cash cost-share contribution.
- The 'Description of Position' field is used to select existing positions and to add new positions.
- For multiple staff in the same position, use a suffix (i.e., Position 1, Position 2, etc.)
- Multiple positions with the same title and classification may be grouped (i.e., Overtime Patrols – 25 Officers). In addition to the requirements below, you must provide total dedicated hours for the grouped positions.
- Funding requests for line items must be limited to staff or projects supported by this application.
- For a salaried position request, you must provide a justification for the fringe benefit in a separate line as shown above. If the fringe is covered by an alternate funding source, a statement to that effect must be included in the justification line. For example, "Fringe will not be charged to this subaward as it is being covered by another funding source."

Notes:

- For each salary line item, you **must include the full annual salary amount, the percentage of time that will be spent on the project, and the hourly rate.** The hourly rate may be calculated by full salary divided by 2,080.
- Fringe benefits may not exceed 30% of reported salary costs unless prior approval is received. For each line item entered, you must include a justification that ties that item to the activities described in your narrative.

Example justifications based on the Personnel category:**Justification (line 1):**

The Community Outreach Coordinator helps prepare, schedule, and develop training targeted for hospitals and other medical facilities.

Annual salary is \$60,000. She will be devoting 33.33% of her time to this project. We are requesting $\$60,000 \times .3333 = \$19,998$, rounded to \$20,000, in grant funds to support her time on this project. Her hourly rate is \$28.85.

Justification (line 2):

Fringe benefits @ 10% of salary. $\$20,000 \times .10 = \$2,000$

Justification (line 3):

The Community Outreach Trainer makes presentations at hospitals and other medical facilities. This position is supported with cash cost-share funds from a private donor.

Annual salary is \$40,000. She will be devoting 25% of her time to this project. We are contributing $\$40,000 \times .25 = \$10,000$ to support her time on this project. Her hourly rate is \$19.23.

Justification (line 4):

Fringe benefits @ 10% of salary. $\$10,000 \times .10 = \$1,000$

OPERATING EXPENSES

Rental Space, Printing, and Communications. Communication expenses include items such as telephone, fax, postage, and other expenditures such as photocopying. Note: Office supplies and project supplies should NOT be listed under operating, and should be listed in the 'Other' category.

Each line item entered, must include a justification that ties that item to the activities described in your narrative.

Refer to the Funding Specifications section of the NOFA for a list of allowable and unallowable expenses specific to the program.

TRAVEL

Travel expenses may include mileage and/or other transportation costs, meals, and lodging consistent with the local jurisdiction's travel regulations and may not exceed the State of Maryland reimbursement rate specified below.

For each line item entered, you must include a justification that ties that item to the activities described in your narrative. **Dates for travel and training must be provided in the justification and must fall within the award period.**

- Refer to SFY travel/per diem rates [State of Maryland Policies and Procedures for meal reimbursement](#) and [travel reimbursement rate](#) (72.5 cents/mile - 1/1/26)

- Review Federal GSA guidelines [Per diem rates | GSA](#) and [IRS Standard Mileage Rate](#). Please be sure to check for annual updates effective January 1.

Description	Funding	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Budget	Just.	Edit	Delete
Mileage	Grant Funds	600.00	0.56	\$333.00	Just.		
Meals (B \$8, L \$10, D \$24)	Grant Funds	5.00	42.00	\$210.00	Just.		
Hotel	Grant Funds	5.00	\$101.40	\$507			

CONTRACTUAL SERVICES

Consultant contracts for training or evaluation should be included here and shall be consistent with federal guidelines. Payments to an outside agency for an employee or any other services are considered Contractual Services.

For the line item description, enter the agency (consulting firm, temporary agency, etc.), a dash, and then the nature of the service to be provided (e.g., Consultants ABC – training for Seminar). Each line item entered requires a justification that ties that item to the activities described in your narrative.

Consultant Rates: The following requirements related to consultant rates apply to all GOCPP's awards whether funded by State or federal funds. The maximum allowable compensation rate for consultant services is \$81.25 per hour or \$650 per day. Rates above this threshold will be considered on a case-by-case basis and require prior approval.

Additional information and the required procedures for requesting prior approval are found in the [Request for Preauthorization of Consultant Fees Form](#). Please note that charges at a rate above the established maximum rate that are incurred prior to the issuance of GOCPP's written approval will be determined as a disallowed cost.

Important: Contracts in existence at the time of application must be uploaded into the Documents section of the GMS during the application process. Contracts finalized post award must be uploaded into the GMS once finalized and before any reimbursement for the related expenses will be awarded.

EQUIPMENT

Equipment is defined as having a useful life in excess of one year and a procurement cost of \$10,000 or more per unit. Costs may include taxes, delivery, installation and similarly related charges. Equipment with a unit cost less than \$10,000 should be recorded in the 'Other' category (see below). The procurement process used must be consistent with the Applicant Agency's written procurement guidelines. If such guidelines do not exist, refer to the State of Maryland guidelines by accessing [General Condition Regarding Procurement](#) on the Office's website under the Grant's Area.

Maintaining internal inventory records for equipment procured under this funding source is mandatory. For post award inventory requirements, access [General Condition Regarding Property Inventory Report Forms](#) on the Office's website. [Property Inventory Report Form \(PIRFs\)](#) is required for equipment that costs \$10,000 or more per unit cost, unless the Special Conditions in your grant packet state otherwise.

Each line item entered requires a justification that ties that item to the activities described in your narrative.

OTHER

Funding requests for line items must be limited to staff or projects supported by this application. Include all other anticipated expenditures which are not included in the previous categories, such as **registration fees, program and office supplies, Indirect Cost Rate (include a 15% de minimis or federal negotiated agreement), and equipment with a useful life less than one year and a procurement cost of less than \$10,000**. Include additional cost-share funds to support sustainability, as applicable. Refer to the [provisions for cost-share requirements](#). If applicable, upload a federally Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) in the Document section of the GMS.

Each line item entered requires a justification that ties that item to the activities described in your narrative.

INDIRECT COST RATE

Indirect costs may be charged to a subaward only if:

- The subrecipient has a current (unexpired) federally approved indirect cost rate; or
- The subrecipient is eligible to use, and elects to use, the de minimis indirect cost rate described in the Part 200 Uniform Requirements, as set out at 2 C.F.R. 200.414(f).

Important: Applicants **must** identify in the narrative and budget justification if they are utilizing the de minimis rate or if they are utilizing a negotiated indirect cost rate, and express mathematically how they are arriving at the budgeted amount for indirect costs.

An applicant with a current (unexpired) federally approved indirect cost rate **must** attach a copy of the indirect cost rate agreement to this application. An applicant that does not have a current federally approved NICRA has the option of electing to use the **15% de minimis** indirect cost rate. If an eligible applicant elects the de minimis rate, costs must be consistently charged as either indirect or direct costs, but may not be double charged or inconsistently charged as both. The revision to [2 CFR 200.414 \(f\)](#) expands the use of the de minimis rate of 15 percent of modified total direct costs (MTDC) to all non-Federal entities (except for those described in [Appendix VII to Part 200- State and Local Government and Indian Tribe Indirect Cost Proposals, paragraph D.1.b](#)).

Indirect Cost Distribution Bases:

*Modified Total Direct Cost, or MTDC (to be utilized if claiming **De minimis**):* This base includes all direct salaries and wages, applicable fringe benefits, materials and supplies, services, travel, and subawards up to the first \$50,000 of each subaward (regardless of the period of performance of the subawards under the award). MTDC excludes equipment, capital expenditures, charges for patient care, rental costs, tuition remission, scholarships and fellowships, participant support costs, and the portion of each subaward in excess of \$50,000. Other items may only be excluded when necessary to avoid a serious inequity in the distribution of indirect costs, and with the approval of the cognizant agency.

Direct Salaries and Wages: This base includes only the costs of direct salaries and wages incurred by the organization.

Direct Salaries and Wages plus Fringe Benefits: This base includes the costs of direct salary and wages and the direct fringe benefits incurred by the organization.

General guidance on cost allocation and prorate - Applicants must determine the appropriate methodology for allocating shared costs that are budgeted and charged to multiple grants. Reimbursable funds charged to multiple costs in the accounting and financial management system must be distributed in proportion using the principles of reasonable, allowable, and allocable expenditures per budget category and line item, as applicable.

6. BUDGET PRIORITIZATION TAB

After completing the Budget tab, click on the Budget Priority tab in the Grant Management System. This tab will provide a list of all budget line items that the applicant has entered in the previous Budget tab. The Budget Priority tab allows the applicant to 'drag and drop' the budget line items in order of priority for funding, beginning with the most essential line item.

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BUDGET PRIORITY

Below is a list of budget line items that have been entered for this project. Sort them, by dragging and dropping, so that the most essential items are at the top of the list.

Refresh

Priority	Description	Salary Type	Funding	Total Budget
1	Executive Director	Salary	Grant Funds	\$3,350.00
2	Program Director	Salary	Grant Funds	\$18,723.00
3	Program Director	Salary	Cash Match	\$3,775.00
4	Volunteer Supervisor - Lucretia Scott	Salary	Grant Funds	\$4,000.00
5	Volunteer Supervisor - Daniel McEachran	Salary	Cash Match	\$8,400.00
6	Volunteer Supervisor - Patti Ross	Salary	Grant Funds	\$2,908.00
7	Volunteer Supervisor - Karen Coleman	Salary	Grant Funds	\$2,234.00
8	Volunteer Supervisor - Anne Feehley	Salary	Cash Match	\$1,795.00

7. DOCUMENTS TAB INSTRUCTIONS

If there are any additional required forms (e.g. Letters of Support) or other documents that the applicants would like included with their application, use the Documents tab to attach those files by the due date. This could include: UEI/Current SAM registration, letters of support, Qualtrics OCQ, and other program-specific NOFA checklist requirements. Please see the [Documents Attachment Guidance under Quick Reference Sheets](#) additional information.

8. APPLICATION STATUS DROP DOWN INSTRUCTIONS

After completing and reviewing all sections of the application, use the 'Application Status' dropdown to submit your application electronically. Selecting 'Submit Application' from the dropdown performs a final validation check. If the validation check is successful, the application's status changes to 'Awaiting Hard Copy'.

HomeGrant ManagementAddress BookAdminLogout								
Grant Management > Application Search								
App. Number:		Grant Number:	Req. Funds:	Match Funds:	Match %:	Project Dates:	Title:	Application Status:
[Unassigned]			\$1,053.00	\$0.00	0.00 %	03/01/2013 - 03/31/2013	Financial Investigations Prac...	--> Submit Application
Grant Application Menu	PRINT REPORT							Pending
								--> Cancel Application
								--> Submit Application

The GMS will process and send an email confirmation to applicant's contacts. The email message will include a pdf attachment of a formatted grant application packet as shown below.



9. SIGNATURE PAGES

The Certified Assurances and Federal Anti-Lobbying Certification must be signed by an Authorized Representative. **Both forms may only be signed by the Applicant Agency's Authorized Official or the Alternative Authorized Official.** Both forms must be generated by the online application software. Please see the following [Quick Reference Sheets](#) for additional information on generating and uploading these documents for successful submission:

- [How to generate grant application signature pages](#)
- [How to attach documents to a grant application or grant award](#)

In order for an alternate signatory to be valid, the Office must receive a signed, written notification from the applicant agency's Authorized Official (on agency letterhead) stating that an alternate signatory has been designated. More information on changing the Authorized Official or adding an Alternative Authorized Official can be found in the [General Conditions](#) and on the Office's [Changing Authorized Official webpage](#).

10. SINGLE AUDIT REQUIREMENT/ CERTIFICATION OF APPLICABLE FINANCIAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS and REQUIRED FINANCIAL REPORT UPLOADING

A non-federal entity that expends \$1,000,000 or more in Federal awards during the non-Federal entities fiscal year must have a single audit conducted in accordance with [2 CFR §200.514](#). If this applies to your organization, provide a screenshot of the audit report submitted to the [Federal Audit Clearinghouse](#) and upload to the documents section of the application.

To ensure subrecipient compliance with applicable fiscal audit/reporting requirements and the timely submission of copies of the subject documents to the Office, applicants must upload to the **Documents** section of the GMS application the:

- Executed [Certification of Applicable Financial Reporting Requirements Form](#); and
- Most recent editions of the financial reports that are indicated as applicable to the applicant on the submitted Certification of Applicable Financial Reporting Requirements Form.

If the applicant indicates on the Certification of Applicable Financial Reporting Requirements Form that their organization must file a single audit under [2 CFR §200.514](#), a screenshot verifying submission to the [Federal Audit Clearinghouse](#) must be uploaded to the documents section of the application.

Please note that the GOCPP is responsible for issuing a management decision for audit findings that relate to grants awarded with federal funds in compliance with [2 CFR §200.521\(c\)](#). Applicants must submit copies of any Audit Findings and Corrective Action Plans with the application. **Do not send a copy of your audited financial statements; ONLY the applicable audit findings and/or corrective action plan is required.**

11. PROOF OF 501(c)(3) STATUS

New non-profit organizations applying for funding must upload to the **Documents** section of the GMS application their U.S. Internal Revenue Service documentation that substantiates the organization's tax exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

12. [ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY QUESTIONNAIRE \(OCQ\)](#) **NEW**

As part of the Office's grant oversight process, applicants are required to complete an Organizational Capacity Questionnaire (OCQ). The OCQ is a monitoring tool used by the Office to collect information on an applicant's organizational stability, financial management practices, and program operations. Information collected through the OCQ supports the Office's determination of an applicant's risk level and appropriate monitoring approach.

For State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2027, submission of the OCQ through Qualtrics is a condition of a complete application by the due date in the online Grants Management System (GMS). Applications will not be considered complete without a submitted OCQ. Organizations must submit a new OCQ annually to ensure GOCPP has current and accurate information for monitoring purposes.

The OCQ must include reliable information provided by the applicant organization's Chief Executive or Chief Financial Officer. Based on the information submitted, the Office will assign a Risk Status in the GMS to provide oversight and monitor throughout the grant lifecycle. Applicants should refer to [Section L](#) for guidance for the individuals completing the project narrative. As required, the OCQ attestation section in the GMS must include the name, title, and date of the certifying official.

For technical assistance with the questionnaire, please contact dlmsac.gocpyvs@maryland.gov or points of contact listed in the NOFA.

Organizational Capacity Questionnaire (OCQ) Link:
https://gocpp.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2mY8YNPFAAzOqmq

13. NOFA CHECKLIST

Please refer to the program-specific NOFA to comply with all requirements and upload of additional documents as applicable. **All required documents must be uploaded by the deadline to be considered as a complete application submission.**

14. POST AWARD INSTRUCTIONS

Distribution of Funds and Reporting Requirements

For further post-award instructions, review the [General Conditions](#) and Special Conditions specific to your award in the GMS.

The Office will distribute awarded funds to grantees on a quarterly reimbursement of expenditures basis following the timely submission of corresponding quarterly fiscal and programmatic reports. These reports must be submitted through the Grants Management System. All programmatic electronic reports are due in the month following the end of the quarter. All reporting activity occurs through the Grant Management System, using the same User ID and password used for the application process.

Note: For subawards ending on June 30, it is highly recommended that subrecipients submit the last quarter financial and programmatic reports as soon as possible, and within the subsequent 30 days following the end of June. This will help avoid delays in reimbursement, as the State will be in the process of closing out the Fiscal Year.

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)

The Office encourages the use of electronic funds transfer (EFT). To obtain the appropriate form, the address to submit the form, and a general overview, including FAQs, refer to the following website, Comptroller of Maryland [Electronic Funds Transfer \(EFT\) Program](#).

Notes:

- Grant financial reimbursement requests are processed on a quarterly schedule unless stated otherwise in the program-specific NOFA. Please allow up to 30 days for the Office and the [Comptroller of Maryland](#) to process financial reimbursement requests and complete bank transactions. Refer to the [Financial Reporting Tips](#) for more information. It is the applicant's responsibility to update the W-9 form to ensure prompt and proper payment. If applicable, applicant must ensure all liabilities are resolved to avoid delayed payments.
- Qualifying nonprofit entities may be eligible to apply for the Maryland Department of Commerce's Nonprofit, Interest-Free Micro Bridge Loan ([NIMBL](#)) Program. NIMBL Program will allow entities to fill a funding gap between the award dates of a government grant and the actual receipt date of those awarded funds that allow for the continued support of the entity's program. Fill out the [intake form](#) to request assistance or sign up for the [Nonprofit Navigator Newsletter](#).
- Refer to [General Conditions](#), [Grant Adjustment Notice \(GAN\) Guidance](#), [Grants Tips and Guidance](#), [Civil Rights Compliance](#), [2 CFR Subrecipient Monitoring and Management Guidance](#), and [Federal Grants Financial Guide \(DOJ sample\)](#) for additional resource information.
- To review additional resources on a grant life cycle, refer to [Grants.gov Grants Learning Center](#), grant fraud and GOCPP's [Grants Management and Program Development Training modules](#).
- See reference video and guide on [GMS Navigation: Uploading Documents](#) and [GMS Quick Reference Series: Organization Document Attachments](#)

OUTPUT VS. OUTCOMES EXAMPLE

OUTPUT: A statistic that quantifies the number of services or products provided/produced as a result of specific activities related to the program/project.

OUTCOME: A measurable change in the quality of life, change in behavior by a client, or an impact as a result of the program. Outcomes can be numerical counts, standardized measures, level of functioning scales, or client satisfaction.

SAMPLE OUTPUTS VS. OUTCOMES

Objective 1: Develop criminal justice strategies that are coordinated at the Local, State, and Federal level.

Output:

- # of agencies/organizations receiving and sharing information since the implementation of the technical solution

Outcomes:

- # of programs reporting an increase in program success due to coordination.
- During current fiscal / calendar year, # of project partners actively participating and collaborating in programs.

Objective 2: Improve victim services for Maryland residents.

Outputs:

- # of victims served.
- # of victims that received medical accompaniment.

Outcomes:

- # of victims that received services whose circumstances improved as a result of the services.
- # of victims that indicated services were helpful on client satisfaction surveys.

Objective 3: Reduce victimization and criminal behavior in Maryland's children.

Outputs:

- # of family engagement activities for youth in secure confinement.
- # of educational opportunities provided to youth upon re-entry from secure confinement.

Outcomes:

- # of youth who exhibited an improvement in family relationships during the reporting period.
- # of youth who have exhibited increased educational participation upon reentry from secure confinement during the reporting period.

Objective 4: Maximize the public safety returns on Maryland's corrections spending.

Output:

- Percentage decline in prison population.

Outcomes:

- # of dollars reinvested in treatment or evidence-based alternatives to incarceration.
- # of offenders rehabilitated and reintegrated into society.

Objective 5: Increase the availability of data to support data-driven approaches to criminal justice issues in Maryland.

Output:

- # of additional data sources provided to the Office.

Outcome:

- # of data-driven criminal justice policies enacted.

***Please provide a narrative in the GMS to justify [Section C. Narrative Tab Instructions](#).**

III. CERTIFIED ASSURANCES

This signed form must be generated by the Online Application Software

THE APPLICANT HEREBY ASSURES AND CERTIFIES THE FOLLOWING:

1. That Federal funds made available under this grant will not be used to supplant State or local funds, but will be used to increase the amounts of such funds that would, in the absence of Federal Funds, be made available for program activities.

2. That cost sharing funds required to pay the non-Federal portion of the cost of each project, for which grant funds are made available, shall be in addition to funds that would otherwise be made available for program activities by the recipient of the grant funds and shall be provided as required in the Grant Award document.

3. That if the subrecipient has expended \$1,000,000 or more in federal funds during the entities fiscal year, a single audit has been conducted in accordance with [2 CFR §200.514](#) and submitted to the [Federal Audit Clearinghouse](#).

4. That fund accounting, auditing, monitoring, evaluation procedures and such records as the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy shall prescribe to and shall be provided to assure fiscal control, proper management and efficient disbursement of funds received.

5. That the Grantee shall maintain such data and information and submit such reports in such form, at such times, and containing such information as the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy may reasonably be required to administer the program.

6. Subrecipients will comply (and will require any subgrantees or contractors to comply) with any applicable statutorily-imposed nondiscrimination requirements, which may include **Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964**, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion or sex in the delivery of services (42 U.S.C. § 2000d), and the DOJ implementing regulations at 28 C.F.R. Part 42, subpart C; **The Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968**, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, or sex in the delivery of services and employment practices (34 U.S.C. § 10228(c)(1)), and the DOJ implementing regulations at 28 C.F.R. Part 42, Subpart D; **Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973**, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in the delivery of services and employment practices (29 U.S.C § 794), and the DOJ implementing regulations at 28 C.F.R. Part 42, Subpart G; **Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990**, which prohibits discrimination in the delivery of services and employment practices (42 U.S.C. § 12132), and the DOJ implementing regulations at 28 C.F.R. Part 35; **Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972**, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs (20 U.S.C. § 1681), and the DOJ implementing regulations at 28 C.F.R. Part 42, Subpart I; **The DOJ regulations on the Partnerships with Faith-based and other Neighborhood Organizations**, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of religion in the delivery of services and prohibit organizations from using DOJ funding

on explicitly religious activities (28 C.F.R. Part 38); **Age Discrimination Act of 1975**, as amended, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age in the delivery of services (42 U.S.C. § 6102), and the DOJ implementing regulation at 28 C.F.R. pt. 42, subpart I; **Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, as amended**, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, and religion in the delivery of services and employment practices (34 U.S.C. § 11182 (b)), and DOJ implementing regulations at 28 C.F.R. §§ 31.202, .403 & part 42, subpart D; **Victims of Crime Act of 1984, as amended**, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, and disability in the delivery of services and employment practices (34 U.S.C. § 20110(e)), and the DOJ implementing regulation at 28 C.F.R. § 94.114; and **Violence Against Women Act of 1994, as amended**, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, disability, sexual orientation, and gender identity in the delivery of services and employment practices (34 U.S.C. § 12291(b)(13)). These laws prohibit agencies from retaliating against individuals for taking action to secure rights protected by these laws.

7. That in the event a Federal or state court or administrative agency makes a finding of discrimination after a due process hearing on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, or disability against the Grantee, a copy of the finding will be forwarded to the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy

8. Subrecipients receiving Federal (Safe Streets Act which authorizes VAWA), VOCA, or Title II JJDPA) Department of Justice Funding are governmental or for-profit entities, that have fifty or more employees and that receive a single award of \$25,000 or more are required to prepare and submit electronically their Equal Opportunity Plan and certification utilizing the Equal Employment Opportunity Reporting tool located on the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) website at <https://ojp.gov/about/ocr/eeop.htm>

Subrecipients receiving Federal (Safe Streets Act which authorizes VAWA), VOCA, or Title II JJDPA) Department of Justice Funding that are Medical or Educational Institution, Indian Tribe, or non profit, governmental or for-profit entities with largest individual grant received is less than \$25,000 and have less than 50 employees will need to submit an online certification form to the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) utilizing the Employment Opportunity tool at <https://ojp.gov/about/ocr/eeop.htm> but would be exempt from completing the Equal Opportunity Plan.

The Office for Civil Rights has training presentations available to recipients of OJP, OVW and COPS Office funding to assist them in meeting their federal civil rights obligations. These trainings can be accessed at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/about/ocr/assistance.htm

9. That the Grantee will comply with the provisions of the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy's General and Special Conditions for Grants. General Conditions are posted on the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, and Policy's website (<https://gocpp.maryland.gov/grants/general-conditions/>).

10. That the Grantee will comply with the provisions of [28 CFR Part 66](#) applicable to grants and cooperative agreements awarded with DOJ funding.

11. Subrecipients are obligated to provide services to Limited English Proficient (LEP) individuals. Refer to the DOJ's Guidance Document. To access this document see U.S. Department of Justice, Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons (67 Federal Regulation 41455 (2002)). This regulation may be accessed at: <http://www.archives.gov/eo/laws/title-vi.html>

CERTIFICATION: I certify that this program will comply with the provisions set forth by the State of Maryland and the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP)

IV. CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING

This signed form must be generated by the Online Application Software



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS
OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER

CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING; DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS; AND DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE REQUIREMENTS

Applicants should refer to the regulations cited below to determine the certification to which they are required to attest. Applicants should also review the instructions for certification included in the regulations before completing this form. Acceptance of this form provides for compliance with certification requirements under 28 CFR Part 69, "New Restrictions on Lobbying," 2 CFR Part 2867, "DOJ Implementation of OMB Guidance on Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension," and 28 CFR Part 83, "Government-wide Debarment and Suspension," and Government-wide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace (Grants)." The certification shall be treated as a material representation of fact upon which reliance will be placed when the Department of Justice determines to award the covered transaction, grant, or cooperative agreement.

1. LOBBYING

As required by 31 U.S.C. § 1352, as implemented by 28 C.F.R. Part 69, the Applicant certifies and assures (to the extent applicable) the following:

(a) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the Applicant, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the making of any Federal grant, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, or the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal grant or cooperative agreement;

(b) If the Applicant's request for Federal funds is in excess of \$100,000, and any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with this Federal grant or cooperative agreement, the Applicant shall complete and submit Standard Form - LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities" in accordance with its (and any DOJ awarding agency's) instructions; and

(c) The Applicant shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subgrants and procurement contracts (and their subcontracts) funded with Federal award funds and shall ensure that any certifications or lobbying disclosures required of recipients of such subgrants and procurement contracts (or their subcontractors) are made and filed in accordance with 31 U.S.C. § 1352.

2. DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS

A. Pursuant to Department regulations on nonprocurement debarment and suspension implemented at 2 C.F.R. Part 2867, and to other related requirements, the Applicant certifies, with respect to prospective participants in a primary tier "covered transaction," as defined at 2 C.F.R. § 2867.20(a), that neither it nor any of its principals—

(a) is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, sentenced to a denial of Federal benefits by a State or Federal court, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal department or agency;

(b) has within a three-year period preceding this application been convicted of a felony criminal violation under any Federal law, or been convicted or had a civil judgment rendered against it for commission of

fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State, tribal, or local) transaction or private agreement or transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, tax evasion or receiving stolen property, making false claims, or obstruction of justice, or commission of any offense indicating a lack of business integrity or business honesty that seriously and directly affects its (or its principals') present responsibility;

(c) is presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State, tribal, or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (b) of this certification; and/or

(d) has within a three-year period preceding this application had one or more public transactions (Federal, State, tribal, or local) terminated for cause or default.

B. Where the Applicant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, it shall attach an explanation to this application. Where the Applicant or any of its principals was convicted, within a three-year period preceding this application, of a felony criminal violation under any Federal law, the Applicant also must disclose such felony criminal conviction in writing to the Department (for OJP Applicants, to OJP at Ojpcompliancereporting@usdoj.gov; for OVW Applicants, to OVW at OVW.GFMD@usdoj.gov; or for COPS Applicants, to COPS at AskCOPSRC@usdoj.gov), unless such disclosure has already been made.

3. FEDERAL TAXES

A. If the applicant is a corporation, the applicant certifies that either (1) the corporation has no unpaid Federal tax liability that has been assessed, for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted or have lapsed, that is not being paid in a timely manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting the tax liability, or (2) the corporation has provided written notice of such an unpaid tax liability (or liabilities) to OJP at Ojpcompliancereporting@usdoj.gov, and, after such disclosure, the applicant has received a specific written determination from OJP that neither suspension nor debarment of the applicant is necessary to protect the interests of the Government in this case.

B. Where the applicant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, he or she shall attach an explanation to this application.

4. DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE (GRANTEES OTHER THAN INDIVIDUALS)

As required by the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988, and implemented at 28 CFR Part 83, Subpart F, for grantees, as defined at 28 CFR Part 67, Sections 83.620 and 83.650:

A. The applicant certifies that it will or will continue to provide a drug-free workplace by:

(a) Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the grantee's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition;

(b) Establishing an on-going drug-free awareness program to inform employees about

(1) The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;

(2) The grantee's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;

(3) Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and

(4) The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace;

(c) Making it a requirement that each employee to be engaged in the performance of the grant be given a copy of the statement required by paragraph (a);

(d) Notifying the employee in the statement required by paragraph (a) that, as a condition of employment under the grant, the employee will

(1) Abide by the terms of the statement; and

(2) Notify the employer in writing of his or her conviction for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such conviction;

(e) Notifying the Department, in writing, within 10 calendar days after having received notice under subparagraph (d)(2) from an employee

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I hereby certify that the applicant will comply with the above certifications.

or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction. Employers of convicted employees must provide notice, including position title of any such convicted employee to the Department, as follows:

For OJP and OVW award recipients - U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, ATTN: Control Desk, 810 7th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20531.

Notice shall include the identification number(s) of each affected award;

(f) Taking one of the following actions, within 30 calendar days of receiving notice under subparagraph (d)(2), with respect to any employee who is so convicted --

(1) Taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination, consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; or

(2) Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a Federal, State, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency;

(g) Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f).

I acknowledge that a materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement (or concealment or omission of a material fact) in this certification, or in the application that it supports, may be the subject of criminal prosecution (including under 18 U.S.C. §§ 1001 and/or 1621, and/or 34 U.S.C. §§ 10271-10273), and also may subject me and the Applicant to civil penalties and administrative remedies for false claims or otherwise (including under 31 U.S.C. §§ 3729-3730 and 3801-3812). I also acknowledge that the Department's awards, including certifications provided in connection with such awards, are subject to review by the Department, including by its Office of the Inspector General.

Applicant must upload a signed copy of all Certified Assurances in the Document section of the GMS by program-specific NOFA due date.

1. Grantee Name and Address:
2. Application Number and/or Project Name
3. Grantee IRS/Vendor Number
4. Typed Name and Title of Authorized Representative
5. Signature
6. Date