



Office of the Governor

Public Safety Office

Criminal Justice Division

Fund Specific Grant Conditions

Victims of Crime Act

FFY 2020 Award

September 2020

About This Document

In this document, grantees will find fund specific federal requirements and conditions applicable to the grant award administered by the Office of the Governor (OOG). These requirements and conditions are incorporated into the Grant Agreement accepted by a grant's Authorized Official.

These requirements are in addition to those that can be found on the eGrants system – including the Grant Application and Grant Award – or in documents identified there, to which grantees agreed when applying for and accepting the grant. Other state and federal requirements and conditions may apply to your grant, including but not limited to: 2 CFR Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards; Chapter 783 of the Texas Government Code; Title 34, Part 1, Chapter 20, Subchapter E, Division 4 of the Texas Administrative Code; the Uniform Grant Management Standards (UGMS) developed by the Comptroller of Public Accounts; the state Funding Announcement or Solicitation under which the grant application was made; for federal funding, the Funding Announcement or Solicitation under which OOG was awarded funds; and any applicable documents referenced in the documents listed above. For grants awarded from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), the current applicable version of the Department of Justice Grants Financial Guide and any applicable provisions in Title 28 of the CFR apply. For grants awarded from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), all Information Bulletins and Policies published by the FEMA Grants Program Directorate apply. OOG reserves the right to add additional responsibilities and requirements, with or without advance notice to the grantee.

It is important for grantees to review all of these policies to successfully manage their grant, maintain eligibility for funding, and avoid violating the terms of the Grant Agreement, any of which could result in the revocation of funding or other actions.

For clarification or further information, please see the Guide to Grants and other support materials at <http://eGrants.Gov.Texas.Gov> or contact the grant manager assigned to the relevant grant. If no grant manager has been assigned, please contact the eGrants help desk at via email at: eGrants@gov.texas.gov, or via telephone at: (512) 463-1919 or dial 7-1-1 for relay services.

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Article I. Reclassification of Various Statutory Provisions

On September 1, 2017, various statutory provisions previously codified elsewhere in the U.S. Code were editorially reclassified (that is, moved and renumbered) to a new Title 34, entitled "Crime Control and Law Enforcement." The reclassification encompassed a number of statutory provisions pertinent to OJP awards (that is, OJP grants and cooperative agreements), including many provisions previously codified in Title 42 of the U.S. Code.

Effective as of September 1, 2017, any reference in this award document to a statutory provision that has been reclassified to the new Title 34 of the U.S. Code is to be read as a reference to that statutory provision as reclassified to Title 34. This rule of construction specifically includes references set out in award conditions, references set out in material incorporated by reference through award conditions, and references set out in other award requirements.

Article II. Employment Eligibility Verification

Employment eligibility verification for hiring under the award

1. The recipient (and any subrecipient at any tier) must--
 - a. Ensure that, as part of the hiring process for any position within the United States that is or will be funded (in whole or in part) with award funds, the recipient (or any subrecipient) properly verifies the employment eligibility of the individual who is being hired, consistent with the provisions of 8 U.S.C. 1324a(a)(1) and (2).
 - b. Notify all persons associated with the recipient (or any subrecipient) who are or will be involved in activities under this award of both—
 - i. this award requirement for verification of employment eligibility, and
 - ii. the associated provisions in 8 U.S.C. 1324a(a)(1) and (2) that, generally speaking, make it unlawful, in the United States, to hire (or recruit for employment) certain aliens.
 - c. Provide training (to the extent necessary) to those persons required by this condition to be notified of the award requirement for employment eligibility verification and of the associated provisions of 8 U.S.C. 1324a(a)(1) and (2).
 - d. As part of the recordkeeping for the award (including pursuant to the Part 200 Uniform Requirements), maintain records of all employment eligibility verifications pertinent to compliance with this award condition in accordance with Form I-9 record retention requirements, as well as records of all pertinent notifications and trainings.
2. Allowable costs -- To the extent that such costs are not reimbursed under any other federal program, award funds may be obligated for the reasonable, necessary, and allocable costs (if any) of actions designed to ensure compliance with this condition.
3. Rules of construction –
 - a. Staff involved in the hiring process - For purposes of this condition, persons "who are or will be involved in activities under this award" specifically includes (without limitation) any and all recipient (or any subrecipient) officials or other staff who are or will be involved in the hiring process with respect to a position that is or will be funded (in whole or in part) with award funds.
 - b. Employment eligibility confirmation with E-Verify - For purposes of satisfying the requirement of this condition regarding verification of employment eligibility, the recipient (or any subrecipient) may choose to participate in, and use, E-Verify (www.e-verify.gov), provided an appropriate person authorized to act on behalf of the recipient (or subrecipient) uses E-Verify (and follows the proper E-Verify procedures, including in the event of a "Tentative

- Nonconfirmation" or a "Final Nonconfirmation") to confirm employment eligibility for each hiring for a position in the United States that is or will be funded (in whole or in part) with award funds.
- c. "United States" specifically includes the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands of the United States, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
 - d. Nothing in this condition shall be understood to authorize or require any recipient, any subrecipient at any tier, or any person or other entity, to violate any federal law, including any applicable civil rights or nondiscrimination law.
 - e. Nothing in this condition, including in paragraph 3.b., shall be understood to relieve any recipient, any subrecipient at any tier, or any person or other entity, of any obligation otherwise imposed by law, including 8 U.S.C. 1324a(a)(1) and (2).

Questions about E-Verify should be directed to DHS. For more information about E-Verify visit the E-Verify website (<https://www.e-verify.gov/>) or email E-Verify at E-Verify@dhs.gov. E-Verify employer agents can email EVerify at E-VerifyEmployerAgent@dhs.gov.

Article III. Personally Identifiable Information

The recipient (and any "subrecipient" at any tier) must have written procedures in place to respond in the event of an actual or imminent "breach" (OMB M-17-12) if it (or a subrecipient)-- 1) creates, collects, uses, processes, stores, maintains, disseminates, discloses, or disposes of "personally identifiable information (PII)" (2 CFR 200.79) within the scope of an OJP grant-funded program or activity, or 2) uses or operates a "Federal information system" (OMB Circular A-130). The recipient's breach procedures must include a requirement to report actual or imminent breach of PII to an OJP Program Manager no later than 24 hours after an occurrence of an actual breach, or the detection of an imminent breach.

Article IV. Authorization of Subawards

All subawards ("subgrants") must have specific federal authorization

The recipient, and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, must comply with all applicable requirements for authorization of any subaward. This condition applies to agreements that -- for purposes of federal grants administrative requirements -- OJP considers a "subaward" (and therefore does not consider a procurement "contract").

The details of the requirement for authorization of any subaward are posted on the OJP web site at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/SubawardAuthorization.htm> (Award condition: All subawards ("subgrants") must have specific federal authorization), and are incorporated by reference here.

Article V. Procurement

Section 5.01 Specific post-award approval required to use a noncompetitive approach in any procurement contract that would exceed \$250,000.

The recipient, and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, must comply with all applicable requirements to obtain specific advance approval to use a noncompetitive approach in any procurement contract that would exceed the Simplified Acquisition Threshold (currently, \$250,000). This condition applies to agreements that -- for purposes of federal grants administrative requirements -- OJP considers a procurement "contract" (and therefore does not consider a subaward).

The details of the requirement for advance approval to use a noncompetitive approach in a procurement contract under an OJP award are posted on the OJP web site at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/NoncompetitiveProcurement.htm> (Award condition: Specific post-award approval required to use a noncompetitive approach in a procurement contract (if contract would exceed \$250,000)), and are incorporated by reference here.

Section 5.02 Unreasonable restrictions on competition under the award; association with federal government

SCOPE. This condition applies with respect to any procurement of property or services that is funded (in whole or in part) by this award, whether by the recipient or by any subrecipient at any tier, and regardless of the dollar amount of the purchase or acquisition, the method of procurement, or the nature of any legal instrument used. The provisions of this condition must be among those included in any subaward (at any tier).

1. No discrimination, in procurement transactions, against associates of the federal government Consistent with the (DOJ) Part 200 Uniform Requirements -- including as set out at 2 C.F.R. 200.300 (requiring awards to be "manage[d] and administer[ed] in a manner so as to ensure that Federal funding is expended and associated programs are implemented in full accordance with U.S. statutory and public policy requirements") and 200.319(a) (generally requiring "[a]ll procurement transactions [to] be conducted in a manner providing full and open competition" and forbidding practices "restrictive of competition," such as "[p]lacing unreasonable requirements on firms in order for them to qualify to do business" and taking "[a]ny arbitrary action in the procurement process") – no recipient (or subrecipient, at any tier) may (in any procurement transaction) discriminate against any person or entity on the basis of such person or entity's status as an "associate of the federal government" (or on the basis of such person or entity's status as a parent, affiliate, or subsidiary of such an associate), except as expressly set out in 2 C.F.R. 200.319(a) or as specifically authorized by USDOJ.
2. Allowable costs - To the extent that such costs are not reimbursed under any other federal program, award funds may be obligated for the reasonable, necessary, and allocable costs (if any) of actions designed to ensure compliance with this condition
3. Rules of construction –
 - a. The term "associate of the federal government" means any person or entity engaged or employed (in the past or at present) by or on behalf of the federal government -- as an employee, contractor or subcontractor (at any tier), grant recipient or -subrecipient (at any tier), agent, or otherwise -- in undertaking any work, project, or activity for or on behalf of (or in providing goods or services to or on behalf of) the federal government, and includes any applicant for such employment or engagement, and any person or entity committed by legal instrument to undertake any such work, project, or activity (or to provide such goods or services) in future.
 - b. Nothing in this condition shall be understood to authorize or require any recipient, any subrecipient at any tier, or any person or other entity, to violate any federal law, including any applicable civil rights or nondiscrimination law.

Article VI. Trafficking

Requirements pertaining to prohibited conduct related to trafficking in persons (including reporting requirements and OJP authority to terminate award)

The recipient, and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, must comply with all applicable requirements (including requirements to report allegations) pertaining to prohibited conduct related to the trafficking of persons, whether on the part of recipients, subrecipients ("subgrantees"), or individuals defined (for purposes of this condition) as "employees" of the recipient or of any subrecipient.

The details of the recipient's obligations related to prohibited conduct related to trafficking in persons are posted on the OJP web site at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/ProhibitedConduct-Trafficking.htm> (Award condition: Prohibited conduct by recipients and subrecipients related to trafficking in persons (including reporting requirements and OJP authority to terminate award)), and are incorporated by reference here.

Article VII. Suitability to Interact with Participating Minors

Determination of suitability to interact with participating minors

SCOPE. This condition applies to this award if it is indicated -- in the application for the award (as approved by DOJ) (or in the application for any subaward, at any tier), the DOJ funding announcement (solicitation), or an associated federal statute -- that a purpose of some or all of the activities to be carried out under the award (whether by the recipient, or a subrecipient at any tier) is to benefit a set of individuals under 18 years of age.

The recipient, and any subrecipient at any tier, must make determinations of suitability before certain individuals may interact with participating minors. This requirement applies regardless of an individual's employment status.

The details of this requirement are posted on the OJP web site at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/Interact-Minors.htm> (Award condition: Determination of suitability required, in advance, for certain individuals who may interact with participating minors), and are incorporated by reference here.

Article VIII. Conference Costs

Compliance with applicable rules regarding approval, planning, and reporting of conferences, meetings, trainings, and other events

The recipient, and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, must comply with all applicable laws, regulations, policies, and official DOJ guidance (including specific cost limits, prior approval and reporting requirements, where applicable) governing the use of federal funds for expenses related to conferences (as that term is defined by DOJ), including the provision of food and/or beverages at such conferences, and costs of attendance at such conferences.

Information on the pertinent DOJ definition of conferences and the rules applicable to this award appears in the DOJ Grants Financial Guide (currently, as section 3.10 of "Postaward Requirements" in the "DOJ Grants Financial Guide").

Article IX. Training

OJP Training Guiding Principles

Any training or training materials that the recipient -- or any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier -- develops or delivers with OJP award funds must adhere to the OJP Training Guiding Principles for Grantees and Subgrantees, available at

<https://ojp.gov/funding/Implement/TrainingPrinciplesForGrantees-Subgrantees.htm>.

Article X. Civil Rights

Section 10.01 Compliance with DOJ regulations pertaining to civil rights and nondiscrimination - 28 C.F.R. Part 42

The recipient, and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, must comply with all applicable requirements of 28 C.F.R. Part 42, specifically including any applicable requirements in Subpart E of 28 C.F.R. Part 42 that relate to an equal employment opportunity program.

Section 10.02 Compliance with DOJ regulations pertaining to civil rights and nondiscrimination - 28 C.F.R. Part 54

Section 10.03 The recipient, and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, must comply with all applicable requirements of 28 C.F.R. Part 54, which relates to nondiscrimination on the basis of sex in certain "education programs."

Section 10.04 Compliance with DOJ regulations pertaining to civil rights and nondiscrimination - 28 C.F.R. Part 38

The recipient, and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, must comply with all applicable requirements of 28 C.F.R. Part 38, specifically including any applicable requirements regarding written notice to program beneficiaries and prospective program beneficiaries.

Currently, among other things, 28 C.F.R. Part 38 includes rules that prohibit specific forms of discrimination on the basis of religion, a religious belief, a refusal to hold a religious belief, or refusal to attend or participate in a religious practice. Part 38 also sets out rules and requirements that pertain to recipient and subrecipient ("subgrantee") organizations that engage in or conduct explicitly religious activities, as well as rules and requirements that pertain to recipients and subrecipients that are faith-based or religious organizations.

The text of 28 C.F.R. Part 38 is available via the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations (currently accessible at <https://www.ecfr.gov/cgibin/ECFR?page=browse>), by browsing to Title 28-Judicial Administration, Chapter 1, Part 38, under e-CFR "current" data.

Article XI. Lobbying

Restrictions on "lobbying"

In general, as a matter of federal law, federal funds awarded by OJP may not be used by the recipient, or any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, either directly or indirectly, to support or oppose the enactment, repeal, modification, or adoption of any law, regulation, or policy, at any level of government. See 18 U.S.C. 1913. (There may be exceptions if an applicable federal statute specifically authorizes certain activities that otherwise would be barred by law.)

Another federal law generally prohibits federal funds awarded by OJP from being used by the recipient, or any subrecipient at any tier, to pay any person to influence (or attempt to influence) a federal agency, a Member of Congress, or Congress (or an official or employee of any of them) with respect to the

awarding of a federal grant or cooperative agreement, subgrant, contract, subcontract, or loan, or with respect to actions such as renewing, extending, or modifying any such award. See 31 U.S.C. 1352. Certain exceptions to this law apply, including an exception that applies to Indian tribes and tribal organizations.

Should any question arise as to whether a particular use of federal funds by a recipient (or subrecipient) would or might fall within the scope of these prohibitions, the recipient is to contact OJP for guidance, and may not proceed without the express prior written approval of OJP.

Article XII. General Appropriations Restrictions

Compliance with general appropriations-law restrictions on the use of federal funds (FY 2020)

The recipient, and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, must comply with all applicable restrictions on the use of federal funds set out in federal appropriations statutes. Pertinent restrictions that may be set out in applicable appropriations acts are indicated at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/FY20AppropriationsRestrictions.htm>, and are incorporated by reference here.

Should a question arise as to whether a particular use of federal funds by a recipient (or a subrecipient) would or might fall within the scope of an appropriations-law restriction, the recipient is to contact OJP for guidance, and may not proceed without the express prior written approval of OJP.

Article XIII. Reporting Fraud, Waste, and Abuse

Section 13.01 Reporting potential fraud, waste, and abuse, and similar misconduct

The recipient, and any subrecipients ("subgrantees") at any tier, must promptly refer to the DOJ Office of the Inspector General (OIG) any credible evidence that a principal, employee, agent, subrecipient, contractor, subcontractor, or other person has, in connection with funds under this award-- (1) submitted a claim that violates the False Claims Act; or (2) committed a criminal or civil violation of laws pertaining to fraud, conflict of interest, bribery, gratuity, or similar misconduct.

Potential fraud, waste, abuse, or misconduct involving or relating to funds under this award should be reported to the OIG by-- (1) online submission accessible via the OIG webpage at <https://oig.justice.gov/hotline/contact-grants.htm> (select "Submit Report Online"); (2) mail directed to: Office of the Inspector General, U.S. Department of Justice, Investigations Division, 1425 New York Avenue, N.W. Suite 7100, Washington, DC 20530; and/or (3) by facsimile directed to the DOJ OIG Fraud Detection Office (Attn: Grantee Reporting) at (202) 616-9881 (fax).

Additional information is available from the DOJ OIG website at <https://oig.justice.gov/hotline>.

Section 13.02 Restrictions and certifications regarding non-disclosure agreements and related matters

No recipient or subrecipient ("subgrantee") under this award, or entity that receives a procurement contract or subcontract with any funds under this award, may require any employee or contractor to sign an internal confidentiality agreement or statement that prohibits or otherwise restricts, or purports to prohibit or restrict, the reporting (in accordance with law) of waste, fraud, or abuse to an investigative or law enforcement representative of a federal department or agency authorized to receive such information.

The foregoing is not intended, and shall not be understood by the agency making this award, to contravene requirements applicable to Standard Form 312 (which relates to classified information), Form 4414 (which relates to sensitive compartmented information), or any other form issued by a federal department or agency governing the nondisclosure of classified information.

1. In accepting this award, the recipient--
 - a. represents that it neither requires nor has required internal confidentiality agreements or statements from employees or contractors that currently prohibit or otherwise currently restrict (or purport to prohibit or restrict) employees or contractors from reporting waste, fraud, or abuse as described above; and
 - b. certifies that, if it learns or is notified that it is or has been requiring its employees or contractors to execute agreements or statements that prohibit or otherwise restrict (or purport to prohibit or restrict), reporting of waste, fraud, or abuse as described above, it will immediately stop any further obligations of award funds, will provide prompt written notification to the federal agency making this award, and will resume (or permit resumption of) such obligations only if expressly authorized to do so by that agency.
2. If the recipient does or is authorized under this award to make subawards ("subgrants"), procurement contracts, or both--
 - a. it represents that--
 - i. it has determined that no other entity that the recipient's application proposes may or will receive award funds (whether through a subaward ("subgrant"), procurement contract, or subcontract under a procurement contract) either requires or has required internal confidentiality agreements or statements from employees or contractors that currently prohibit or otherwise currently restrict (or purport to prohibit or restrict) employees or contractors from reporting waste, fraud, or abuse as described above; and
 - ii. it has made appropriate inquiry, or otherwise has an adequate factual basis, to support this representation; and
 - b. it certifies that, if it learns or is notified that any subrecipient, contractor, or subcontractor entity that receives funds under this award is or has been requiring its employees or contractors to execute agreements or statements that prohibit or otherwise restrict (or purport to prohibit or restrict), reporting of waste, fraud, or abuse as described above, it will immediately stop any further obligations of award funds to or by that entity, will provide prompt written notification to the federal agency making this award, and will resume (or permit resumption of) such obligations only if expressly authorized to do so by that agency.

Article XIV. Whistleblower Protections

Compliance with 41 U.S.C. 4712 (including prohibitions on reprisal; notice to employees).

The recipient (and any subrecipient at any tier) must comply with, and is subject to, all applicable provisions of 41 U.S.C. 4712, including all applicable provisions that prohibit, under specified circumstances, discrimination against an employee as reprisal for the employee's disclosure of information related to gross mismanagement of a federal grant, a gross waste of federal funds, an abuse of authority relating to a federal grant, a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety, or a violation of law, rule, or regulation related to a federal grant.

The recipient also must inform its employees, in writing (and in the predominant native language of the workforce), of employee rights and remedies under 41 U.S.C. 4712.

Should a question arise as to the applicability of the provisions of 41 U.S.C. 4712 to this award, the recipient is to contact the DOJ awarding agency (OJP or OVW, as appropriate) for guidance.

Article XV. Text Messaging While Driving

Encouragement of policies to ban text messaging while driving.

Pursuant to Executive Order 13513, "Federal Leadership on Reducing Text Messaging While Driving," 74 Fed. Reg. 51225 (October 1, 2009), DOJ encourages recipients and subrecipients ("subgrantees") to adopt and enforce policies banning employees from text messaging while driving any vehicle during the course of performing work funded by this award, and to establish workplace safety policies and conduct education, awareness, and other outreach to decrease crashes caused by distracted drivers.

Article XVI. VOCA Requirements

The State and its subrecipients will comply with the conditions of the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) of 1984, sections 1404(a)(2), and 1404(b)(1) and (2), 42 U.S.C. 10603(a)(2) and (b)(1) and (2) (and the applicable program guidelines and regulations), as required. Specifically, the State certifies that funds under this award will:

1. Be awarded only to eligible victim assistance organizations, 42 U.S.C. 10603(a)(2);
2. Not be used to supplant State and local public funds that would otherwise be available for crime victim assistance, 42 U.S.C. 10603(a)(2); and
3. Be allocated in accordance with program guidelines or regulations implementing 42 U.S.C. 10603(a)(2)(A) and 42 U.S.C. 10603(a)(2)(B) to, at a minimum, assist victims in the following categories: sexual assault, child abuse, domestic violence, and underserved victims of violent crimes as identified by the State.

Article XVII. Access to Records

The recipient, and any subrecipient ("subgrantee") at any tier, must authorize the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) and/or the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO), and its representatives, access to and the right to examine all records, books, paper, or documents related to the VOCA grant.