

U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs
Office for Victims of Crime



Solicitation for Concept Papers

**National Scope Training,
Technical Assistance,
and
Demonstration Project**

**Deadline for
Concept Papers:**

**July 1, 2005
5 p.m. Eastern Time**

Introduction

The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), within the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, is committed to enhancing the Nation's capacity to assist crime victims and to provide leadership in changing attitudes, policies, and practices to promote justice for all victims of crime. The Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) of 1984, as amended, authorizes OVC to use discretionary funds to improve and enhance the skills, knowledge, and abilities of victim service providers and allied professionals who work with crime victims [42 U.S.C. § 10603]. Each year, OVC funds training and technical assistance and demonstration initiatives with discretionary resources made available from the Crime Victims Fund.

For Fiscal Year (FY) 2006, OVC is soliciting concept papers from the field that offer innovative and replicable initiatives. This document establishes the requirements and structure for submitting a concept paper for consideration under OVC's National Scope Training, Technical Assistance, and Demonstration authority. National scope training and technical assistance includes the following activities: (1) performing program evaluations; (2) funding and evaluating demonstration programs; (3) supporting victims' rights compliance efforts; (4) developing training curricula; (5) identifying and disseminating promising practices in victim services; (6) supporting efforts to raise national awareness of victims' rights and needs; (7) developing materials that inform federal crime victims of their rights and the services available to them; (8) supporting programs that establish new and expand existing services for federal crime victims, including programs that address the needs of crime victims in Indian Country; and (9) training for federal, criminal, and tribal justice system personnel on victims' issues. OVC generally funds training and technical assistance and other products that can be transmitted to its Training and Technical Assistance Center (TTAC) or its Resource Center (OVCRC) for further dissemination.

For examples of national scope initiatives previously supported by OVC, visit the OVC Web site at www.ovc.gov.

Eligible Activities

OVC is seeking proposals for innovative activities that support the following: (1) the enforcement of rights for crime victims; (2) the expansion of victim service networks; (3) public education and awareness activities; (4) the integration of crime victim issues in adolescent and adult education systems; (5) demonstration projects that improve access to services and justice for unserved and underserved victim populations, such as efforts that address the needs of crime victims, service providers and advocates, and allied professionals working in Indian Country, the inner city, and high-crime areas and with people with disabilities; and (6) the delivery of services and access to the justice system for victims of federal crimes. Proposed initiatives must have national applicability in scope and be replicable in other jurisdictions or settings.

Ineligible Activities

OVC is not authorized to fund research, crime prevention activities, or criminal justice system improvements.

Who Is Eligible to Submit a Concept Paper?

- OVC will consider concept papers from national and state nonprofit victim organizations and coalitions, faith- and community-based organizations, public agencies (including federal, state, and local governments) with victim responsibilities, and tribal and nongovernmental organizations.

Who is Not Eligible to Submit a Concept Paper?

- Individuals
- For-profit entities

Concept Paper Requirements

Concept papers should be no more than 10 pages in length, double spaced, with 12-point font. Please do not forward appendices or other attachments to the submission. The concept paper should be structured as follows:

Part A. Abstract

- Submit an abstract of no more than 300 words.

Part B. Define the Problem

- Identify a program area designation (e.g., enforcement of victim rights, expansion of network of services, public education and awareness, unserved and/or underserved victim population).
- Provide a statement that describes the aspect of the justice system that requires improvement or the crime victimization problem that requires attention.
- Discuss the population or group affected by the problem, trend, or issue.
- Discuss where the problem, trend, or issue is concentrated (e.g., geographically, population, systemic).
- Describe the individual(s) affected by the problem.
- Explain whether this addresses an emerging issue or chronic problem.
- Cite any research or statistics that corroborate the perceived problem.

Part C. Describe the Solution

- Discuss what solution or intervention is needed.
- Describe the proposed project goals and objectives.
- Describe in sufficient detail the proposed activity to address the problem, trend, or issue.
- Include information about any proposed collaboration required to improve the impact of the proposed activity and to maximize resources.
- Describe the implications for knowledge and/or practice.
- Discuss how success will be determined and the proposed evaluation plan.

- Discuss expected changes to be realized as a result of the proposed effort (e.g., increased knowledge, awareness, understanding of roles and responsibilities, compliance).
- Describe the project deliverables.
- Discuss the proposed timeline for completion of the project.
- Discuss any projected continuation activities.

Part D. Capability and Cost

- Describe the organization’s capability to manage a project with national-scope implications.
- Describe the organization’s management structure and staffing.
- Describe the estimated costs, including a narrative description that justifies the organization’s request for funding and how it ties into the project strategy.
- Describe the cost for any projected continuation activities.

Selection Criteria

Successful concepts will be considered for funding in FY 2006. OVC will issue solicitations for selected concepts. OVC reserves the right to (1) fund concepts noncompetitively; or (2) open solicitations for competition among interested applicants. OVC also reserves the right to narrow or broaden the concept and seek or require collaboration with other agencies and organizations.

Note: *The submission and selection of a concept does not guarantee funding to the author/organization of the concept.*

Deadline and Submission of Concept Paper

Concept papers are due to OVC by July 1, 2005, at 5:00 p.m. EDT. Please fax or e-mail the concept paper to:

Office for Victims of Crime
 U.S. Department of Justice
 810 Seventh Street NW., Eighth Floor
 Washington, D.C. 20531
 Fax: 202-514-6383
 Fax: 202-305-2440
 E-mail: Kisha.W.Green@usdoj.gov

If you have questions about the requirements for the submission of concept papers, please call 202-616-3573.

OVC is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency.