

Violence Against Women Act Sexual Assault Services Program (VAWA SASP) Direct Services 2026 Non-Competitive Grant

Funding Announcement

Wisconsin Department of Justice Office of Crime Victim Services

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VAWA SASP Direct Services 2026 Non-Competitive Grant Funding Announcement

Funding Announcement Description

Non-competitive continuation funding announcement under the Sexual Assault Services Formula Grant Program (SASP). Funds are awarded annually to Wisconsin by the US Department of Justice (USDOJ), Office on Violence Against Women (OVW).

Important Dates

Application Due Date: October 24, 2025

Project Start Date: January 1, 2026

Project End Date: December 31, 2026

Anticipated Funding Amount

The current funding available for this grant cycle is \$779,872. During the 2024 competitive grant year, successful applicants were awarded for a one-year project period with the possibility of two additional continuation years. Each continuation grant year requires an application. Continued funding is contingent upon federal funds available, subgrant compliance with federal and state guidelines, and compliance with grant award conditions. OCVS reserves the right to amend, change, or reduce subgrant award amounts for each continuation grant year.

Match/Cost Sharing Requirement

This grant program has no matching or cost-sharing requirements.

Eligibility

Only organizations that received SASP Direct Services funding in 2025 are eligible to apply for continued funding.

Non-Supplantation

Federal funds must be used to supplement existing state and local government funds for program activities and must not supplant those funds that have been appropriated for the



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same purposes. Violations may result in penalties, such as suspension of current and future funds under this program, suspension or debarment from federal grants, repayment of monies provided under a grant, and civil and/or criminal penalties.

VAWA SASP Grant Description

The purpose of the SASP grant is to provide direct intervention and support services to victims of sexual violence that is culturally relevant and responsive to immediate and long-term needs. For additional information on the SASP Formula Program, see the OVW SASP webpage.

Activities that Compromise Victim Safety and Recovery

The SASP Formula Program does not fund activities that jeopardize victim safety, deter or prevent physical or emotional healing for victims, or allow offenders to avoid responsibility for their actions. OVW grant funds may support survivor-centered alternative pathways to justice and non-criminal approaches to accountability that fall within the statutory scope of this program and do not compromise victim safety. Information on activities that compromise victim safety and recovery and undermine offender accountability may be found in the Application Companion Guide on the OVW website.

Allowable Activities

Intervention and related assistance under SASP may include:

- 24-hour hotline services providing crisis intervention services and referral.
- Accompaniment and advocacy through medical, criminal justice, and social support systems, including medical facilities, police, and court proceedings.
- Crisis intervention, short-term individual and group support services, direct
 payments, and comprehensive service coordination and supervision to assist sexual
 assault victims and family or household members.
- Information and referral to assist the sexual assault victim and family or household members.



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- Community-based, culturally specific services and support mechanisms, including outreach activities for underserved communities.
- Development and distribution of materials on issues related to the services described above.

Direct payments to victims and their family or household members must be for costs related to the sexual assault. Examples of costs that direct payments may cover include, but are not limited to:

- Replacement bedding, clothing, or other household items.
- Securing new or temporary housing, including paying a security deposit, first month's rent, or moving expenses.
- Travel expenses.
- Childcare expenses.
- Food, including culturally appropriate food.
- Utility assistance (other than utilities in arrears).
- Security measures such as re-keying locks, replacing a cell phone, or purchasing a motion detector or security camera that does not require installation.

Out-of-Scope Activities

OVW has determined the activities listed below to be out of the program scope, and they will not be supported by SASP Formula Program funding:

- Research projects. Funds under this program may not be used to conduct research, defined by 28 C.F.R. § 46.102(d) as a systematic investigation designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge. Survey and focus groups, depending on their design and purpose, may constitute research and therefore be out-of-scope. However, assessments conducted for internal improvement purposes only may not be considered "research" as defined above. For information on distinguishing between research and assessments, see the Application Companion Guide.
- Activities focused on prevention efforts and education (e.g., bystander intervention, social norms campaigns, presentations on healthy relationships, etc.).



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- Criminal justice-related projects, including funding for law enforcement, prosecution, courts, and forensic interviews.
- Sexual Assault Forensic Medical Examiner programs.
- Sexual Assault Response Team coordination.
- Providing training to allied professions and the community (e.g., law enforcement, child protection services, prosecution, other community-based organizations, etc.).
- Domestic violence services unrelated to sexual violence.

Unallowable Costs

The costs associated with the activities listed below are unallowable:

- Lobbying.
- Fundraising.
- Purchase of real property.
- Physical modifications to buildings, including minor renovations (such as painting or carpeting).
- Construction.

Application Registration Requirements

SAM Entity Registration

All applicants must have an active account with SAM.gov. This includes having a unique entity identifier (UEI). SAM.gov registration can take several weeks. To register, go to https://sam.gov/entity-registration.

Egrants Registration

All applications must be submitted through the Wisconsin Department of Justice's web-based grants management system called <u>Egrants</u>. If you are new to <u>Egrants</u>, you will need to <u>register</u> for access to the system and complete the <u>self-registration</u> process. Please choose DOJ Egrants during this process.



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Authorization to access Egrants can take several days depending on registration activity. The DOJ help desk is open Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. If you have any problems using Egrants, please contact the help desk at Egrants@doj.state.wi.us or call (608) 267-9068 or toll free at (888) 894-6607 during business hours.

Application Components

The application will be completed in Egrants. The following sections outline the information requested in the application. Egrants will time out each session after 30 minutes which may result in lost data. It is recommended to write answers outside of Egrants and then copy and paste them into Egrants.

All application components are subject to open records requests.

Main Summary Page

The main summary page in Egrants asks for information about your agency and the individuals responsible for the application and grant award. Please identify a financial officer, project director, and signing official. These individuals cannot be the same person.

- The Financial Officer is the individual responsible for financial activities in your organization while the project director will be overseeing project operations.
- The Project Director will be the main point of contact for all VAWA STOP related grant communications.
- The Signing Official should be the highest elected official, or a designated proxy by the highest elected official, for the agency.

Then, select the corresponding State Senate Districts, Congressional Districts, and State Assembly District from the drop-down menu.

In the Brief Project Description text box, describe your project in 150 words or less with the following format.



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"[Name of Agency] [identify component, if more than one] will provide [major categories or types of services] to [description of clients in terms of types of crime(s) and other relevant demographics] in [county(ies)]."

Responses to this section will be used on the DOJ website, cited in DOJ reports, and could be mentioned in press releases. Plain language that clearly describes the intent of the project is most effective.

Project Title

Please use an identifying title of your project, which includes "VAWA SASP" at the start of the project. For example, an appropriate project title is "VAWA SASP: Sexual Assault Direct Services 2026." Do not use a generic title such as "VAWA SASP 2026."

Approval Checklist

Answer Yes or No to each question.

Performance Measures

Change section status to "Complete" and save.

Budget Detail

Please use the original 2025 budget or most recently approved budget as your guide. Complete a project budget using the categories listed below. For each category used, enter a justification that describes how the items in that category will be used during the grant period. It is important that you include specific details for each budget line item, including cost calculations.

Personnel: Provide salary information for employees funded through the grant. For each employee, list position title and name. Only staff that are directly working on the SASP funded program and activities can be charged to the grant. Do not include contractors in this budget category.



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Employee Benefits: Employee benefits are for those listed in personnel and should be pro-rated for the time devoted to the project.

Staff Development: To be used to train program staff who will provide SASP victim services but may not be used to provide a generalized statewide training. Staff Development expenses should represent a small portion of the overall budget. All reimbursements will be at current state rates and are subject to change.

Travel: Any travel excluding training purposes. Travel must relate to the provision of direct services. All reimbursements will be at <u>current state rates</u> and are subject to change. (Please note: Travel and training for <u>contracted employees</u> does <u>not go</u> in this section. These expenses should be itemized under "Consultants/Contractual").

Note: Paying for food from USDOJ funds is not allowed or strict limitations apply. Food for clients being served by the program is the only time prior approval is not needed. Please consult with <u>Courtney Watson</u> prior to submitting this application for clarification and for prior approval.

Equipment: Tangible non-expendable personal property having a useful life of more than one year and acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more per unit.

Supplies and Operating Expenses: Includes consumables such as paper, general office supplies, postage, liability insurance, and software. This category can include operating expenses such as rent and utilities.

Indirect costs: Include any indirect cost rate in this section of the budget.

The government-wide grant requirements in Title 2 C.F.R. part 200, state a policy that federal awards should bear their fair share of costs, including reasonable, allocable, and allowable direct and indirect costs. VAWA-funded projects align with the government-wide grant requirements and cost principles, which allow federal funding to support sub-recipient indirect costs (see Title 2 C.F.R. 200.331 and 200.414).



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A subrecipient who has never had a federally negotiated indirect cost rate agreement may elect to use the de minimis indirect cost rate of up to 15% of Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC). MTDC includes all direct salaries and wages, applicable fringe benefits, materials and supplies, services, travel, and up to the first \$50,000 of each subcontract. MTDC excludes rental costs, equipment, capital expenditures, charges for patient care, tuition remission, scholarships and fellowships, participant support costs and the portion of each subcontract 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 for indirect costs.

Show your calculation of indirect costs, such as MTDC = $$150,000 \times 15\%$ indirect rate = \$22,500. Please attach either the agency's approved NICRA letter or the 15% de Minimis Certification in the Required Attachments Section.

Consultants/Contractual: All costs associated with individuals or entities providing services through a contractual agreement must be included in this section.

Consultant fees more than \$650 per day or \$81.25 per hour day require additional justification and require approval. The consultant and contractual checklists can be used as a resource for this type of expense.

Other: For eligible expenses that do not fit into specific categories, such as emergency victim assistance.

Project Narrative (limit to 500 words)

In general, OCVS is familiar with the larger operations of your program. Please limit responses to the information requested below. Do not change the overall scope of your VAWA SASP project.

1. What program changes did you encounter during the past year, and how will you address these in year three of the project?



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Required Attachments

Please attach the following documents to your application in this section. If possible, please combine attachments or submit all these documents as one single attachment.

- Proof of Certification in SAM.gov
- Proof of Non-Profit Status for non-profit agencies.

If applicable:

- Indirect Cost Rate, either:
 - Federally Approved Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA)
 or Certification to Apply 15% de Minimis Indirect Cost Rate

Application Review and Award Criteria

All applications must be submitted on or before the deadline and will be screened for completeness and compliance with the instructions provided in this announcement.

Post-Award Special Conditions/Reporting Requirements

Agencies awarded funds under this announcement are required to provide regular progress reports. The schedule for reports will be included in the grant award materials. When received, please review all grant award special conditions and Egrants reporting requirements. Please note that Federal Debarment and Lobbying forms will be sent with award documents and should be signed and submitted with the award documents.

Fiscal Reports – VAWA SASP subgrants are paid on a reimbursement basis. Subgrantees may choose to be reimbursed monthly or quarterly by submitting fiscal reports in Egrants. The decision is solely up to the subgrantee. However, once a frequency of fiscal reports is selected for the grant year, it cannot be changed.

Program Reports- VAWA SASP subgrants will report on project activities on a semiannual basis in Egrants. Subgrants will also submit a final report at the end of the grant period.



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OVW Annual Performance Report – All programs that receive VAWA funds are required by USDOJ to submit an annual performance report via the IMPACT tool. The IMPACT tool tracks data for projects on the calendar year. VAWA subgrantees will receive detailed information about completing and submitting this data via the online tool. Example questions and instructions can be found on the Muskie School of Public Service VAWA Measuring Effectiveness Initiative website.

Subgrantee Monitoring - OCVS must assess subgrantee risk posed by applicants before they receive federal funds. Assessment of subgrantee risk determines the level of monitoring performed by OCVS. Further, the levels of risk assigned by OCVS does not preclude a subgrantee from receiving federal funds. In addition to reviewing program complexity and prior adherence to OCVS grant award terms and conditions (if applicable), OCVS will also review financial complexity and the financial capacity of the agency.