

Montana Board of Crime Control Request for Proposals



The Montana Board of Crime Control (MBCC) is soliciting competitive proposals for STOP (Services-Training-Officers-Prosecutors) Violence Against Women Act to be funded by the Office on Violence Against Women. Approximately \$1 million will be available during fiscal year 2020, depending upon the availability of federal funds.

STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) #19-02 (W)

Application Deadline: January 17, 2019 at 12:00 p.m. noon
Project Period: July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

Alternative accessible formats of this document will be provided upon request. Persons who need this material in another format to participate in the Request for Proposals (RFP) process should contact the Montana Board of Crime Control (MBCC), 5 South Last Chance Gulch, PO Box 201408, Helena, MT 59620-1408; Phone (406) 444-3604; Fax (406) 444-4722; Montana Relay 711 or <https://dphhs.mt.gov/detd/mtap/mtapmtrelay/makeacall>.

I. Eligibility

Eligible applicants include local government, tribal governments, state agencies, and private nonprofit agencies.

II. Registrations

A new applicant must register with the Online Subgrantee Application System (OSAS), at <http://apps.mbcc.mt.gov/osas/Default.aspx>, immediately to ensure meeting the application deadline. Create a login ID, using 4 to 20 characters with no spacing or punctuation. Passwords must be at least 8 characters, include at least 1 letter and 1 number, and are case-sensitive. No special characters or punctuation is allowed. Enter New User and Agency Information, including the Federal Employer or Payee Identification Number.

Previous applicants for funding with MBCC may use an existing User ID and Password. If you need assistance, contact MBCC.

Applicants are required to have a Dun & Bradstreet (DUNS) number and to maintain a current registration in the System for Award Management (SAM).

- To obtain a DUNS number online, go to <http://www.dnb.com/get-a-duns-number.html> or call the Dun & Bradstreet hotline at 1-800-526-9018. The DUNS number is required as part of the registration with SAM. To register with SAM, go to <https://uscontractorregistration.com/> or call the SAM Registration Help Desk at 1-877-252-2700.

III. Deadline

Applications must be submitted online, on or before **January 17, 2019 at 12:00 p.m. noon**. Applications will be submitted in the OSAS under the registered applicant. To mitigate any potential submission difficulties, MBCC strongly urges application submission 72 hours prior to the deadline.

Late applications will not be reviewed.

Schedule of Events	
RFP Issue Date	December 6, 2018
Deadline for Receipt of Written Questions	January 11, 2019
Responses to questions will be posted on the MBCC website within 7 calendar days of receipt, through the last Friday before the RFP is closed.	
Application Submission Deadline	January 17, 2019 at 12:00 p.m. noon
Staff and Committee Review	January to April, 2019
Application Review Committee (ARC)	May 2018
Board of Crime Control Approval	June 14, 2019 (tentative)
Project Start Date	July 1, 2019
Project End Date	June 30, 2020

For applicants without internet access, who cannot apply electronically through the OSAS, contact MBCC at (406) 444-3604 or mbcc@mt.gov (listing “RFP # 19-02 (W), Submission Assistance” as the email subject) for approval and submission instructions.

IV. Program-Specific Information

Overview and Purpose Area(s)

MBCC is soliciting proposals for STOP (Services-Training-Officers-Prosecutors) Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) to be funded by the Office on Violence Against Women.

The application process is competitive. Previous funding does not guarantee an award during this funding cycle.

Note: Because federal funds are not always available immediately following the award date, applicants should prepare for this contingency.

The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) is a component of the United States Department of Justice (DOJ). Created in 1995, OVW implements the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and subsequent legislation and provides national leadership on issues of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Since its inception, OVW has supported a multifaceted approach to responding to these crimes through implementation of grant programs authorized by VAWA. By forging state, local and tribal partnerships among police, prosecutors, judges, victim advocates, health care providers, faith leaders, organizations that serve culturally specific and underserved communities, and others, OVW grants help provide victims, across their life span, with the protection and services they need to pursue safe and healthy lives, while improving communities’ capacity to provide justice for victims and hold offenders accountable.

Funds under the STOP Formula Grant Program may be used for the following purposes, pursuant to 34 U.S.C. § 10441(b):

1. Training law enforcement officers, judges, other court personnel, and prosecutors to more effectively identify and respond to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, including the appropriate use of nonimmigrant status under subparagraphs (T) and (U) of section 101(a)(15) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)).
2. Developing, training, or expanding units of law enforcement officers, judges, other court personnel, and prosecutors specifically targeting violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.
3. Developing and implementing more effective police, court, and prosecution policies, protocols, orders, and services specifically devoted to preventing, identifying, and responding to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, as well as the appropriate treatment of victims.
4. Developing, installing, or expanding data collection and communication systems, including computerized systems, linking police, prosecutors, and courts or for the purpose of identifying, classifying, and tracking arrests, protection orders, violations of protection orders, prosecutions, and convictions for violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.
5. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening victim services and legal assistance programs, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking programs, developing or improving delivery of victim services to underserved populations, providing specialized domestic violence court advocates in courts where a significant number of protection orders are granted, and increasing reporting and reducing attrition rates for cases involving violent crimes against women, including crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.
6. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs addressing the needs and circumstances of Indian tribes in dealing with violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.
7. Supporting formal and informal statewide, multidisciplinary efforts, to the extent not supported by state funds, to coordinate the response of state law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, courts, victim services agencies, and other state agencies and departments, to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.
8. Training of sexual assault forensic medical personnel examiners in the collection and preservation of evidence, analysis, prevention, and providing expert testimony and treatment of trauma related to sexual assault.
9. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs to assist law enforcement, prosecutors, courts, and others to address the needs and circumstances of older and disabled women who are victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, including recognizing, investigating, and prosecuting instances of such violence or assault and targeting outreach and support, counseling, and other victim services to such older and disabled individuals.
10. Providing assistance to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in immigration matters.
11. Maintaining core victim services and criminal justice initiatives, while supporting complementary new initiatives and emergency services for victims and their families.
12. Supporting the placement of special victim assistants (to be known as “Jessica Gonzales Victim Assistants”) in local law enforcement agencies to serve as liaisons between victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking and personnel in local law

enforcement agencies in order to improve the enforcement of protection orders. Jessica Gonzales Victim Assistants shall have expertise in sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking and may undertake the following activities:

- a. developing, in collaboration with prosecutors, courts, and victim service providers, standardized response policies for local law enforcement agencies, including the use of evidence-based indicators to assess the risk of domestic and dating violence homicide and prioritize dangerous or potentially lethal cases;
 - b. notifying persons seeking enforcement of protection orders as to what responses will be provided by the relevant law enforcement agency;
 - c. referring persons seeking enforcement of protection orders to supplementary services (such as emergency shelter programs, hotlines, or legal assistance services); and
 - d. taking other appropriate action to assist or secure the safety of the person seeking enforcement of a protection order.
13. Providing funding to law enforcement agencies, victim services providers, and state, tribal, territorial, and local governments (which funding stream shall be known as the Crystal Judson Domestic Violence Protocol Program) to promote:
- a. the development and implementation of training for local victim domestic violence service providers, and to fund victim services personnel, to be known as “Crystal Judson Victim Advocates,” to provide supportive services and advocacy for victims of domestic violence committed by law enforcement personnel;
 - b. the implementation of protocols within law enforcement agencies to ensure consistent and effective responses to the commission of domestic violence by personnel within such agencies such as the model policy promulgated by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (“Domestic Violence by Police Officers: A Policy of the IACP, Police Response to Violence Against Women Project” July 2003); and
 - c. the development of such protocols in collaboration with state, tribal, territorial and local victim services providers and domestic violence coalitions.
 - d. Note: Any law enforcement, state, tribal, territorial, or local government agency receiving funding under the Crystal Judson Domestic Violence Protocol Program, and any subgrantee of such an agency, shall (1) receive specialized training, on an annual basis, from domestic violence and sexual assault nonprofit organizations on the topic of incidents of domestic violence committed by law enforcement personnel and (2) provide a report to the Department of the protocol(s) adopted in connection with the Crystal Judson Domestic Violence Protocol Program, including a summary of progress in implementing such protocol(s), once every two years. States and territories must notify and provide OVW with a list of subgrantee recipients awarded STOP funds under the Crystal Judson Domestic Violence Protocol Program and ensure that all subgrantees satisfy the requirements of this paragraph.
14. Developing and promoting state, local, or tribal legislation and policies that enhance best practices for responding to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.
15. Developing, implementing, or enhancing Sexual Assault Response Teams, or other similar coordinated community responses to sexual assault.
16. Developing and strengthening policies, protocols, best practices, and training for law enforcement agencies and prosecutors relating to the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault cases and the appropriate treatment of victims.
17. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs addressing sexual assault against men, women, and youth in correctional and detention settings.
18. Identifying and conducting inventories of backlogs of sexual assault evidence collection kits and developing protocols and policies for responding to and addressing such backlogs, including protocols and policies for notifying and involving victims.

19. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs and projects to provide services and responses targeting male and female victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, whose ability to access traditional services and responses is affected by their sexual orientation or gender identity, as defined in section 249(c) of title 18 [of the United States Code.]
20. Developing, enhancing, or strengthening prevention and educational programming to address sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, with not with not more than 5 percent of the amount allocated to a state to be used for this purpose.

Priority Areas

1. Improve services for and/or the response to victims of sex trafficking and other severe forms of trafficking in persons who have also experienced domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking.
2. Increase support for survivors of sexual assault, including services, law enforcement response, and prosecution.
3. Meaningfully increase access to programming for specific marginalized and/or underserved populations (based on race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, age, etc.).
4. Increase the use of promising, evidence-based, and evidence-building practices, where available.

Project Period

The project period begins **July 1, 2019** and concludes **June 30, 2020**. Funds may not be expended or obligated prior to **July 1, 2019**.

Cash or In-Kind Match

Matching contributions of 25% (cash or in-kind) of the total cost of the STOP VAWA project (federal funds plus local match) are required for local, state and tribal government agencies for those who plan to apply in the Law Enforcement, Prosecution, Courts, and Discretionary categories. Non-profit programs are not required to provide match. However, providing match helps in Montana's efforts to receive continued VAWA funds. Match must be derived from non-federal sources. All funds designated as match are restricted to the same uses as the federal funds and must be expended within the grant period.

Prohibited Uses

The following activities have been found to jeopardize victim safety, deter or prevent physical or emotional healing for victims, or allow offenders to escape responsibility for their actions;

1. Procedures or policies that exclude victims from receiving safe shelter, advocacy services, counseling, and other assistance based on their actual or perceived sex, age, immigration status, race, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, mental health condition, physical health condition, criminal record, work in the sex industry, or the age and/or gender of their children;
2. Procedures or policies that compromise the confidentiality of information and/or privacy of persons receiving OVW-funded services;
3. Procedures or policies that require victims to take certain actions (e.g., seek an order of protection, receive counseling, participate in couples counseling or mediation, report to law enforcement, seek civil or criminal remedies, etc.) in order to receive services;
4. Procedures or policies that fail to include conducting safety planning with victims;
5. Project design and budget that fail to account for the access needs of participants with disabilities and participants who have limited English proficiency or who are Deaf or hard of hearing;

6. The use of pre-trial diversion programs without prior OVW review and approval of the program or the automatic placement of offenders in such programs;
7. Couples counseling, family counseling, or any other manner or joint victim-offender counseling as a routine or required response to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, or in situations in which child sexual abuse is alleged;
8. Offering or ordering anger management programs for offenders as a substitute for batterer's intervention programs;
9. Policies or procedures that require victims to report the crime to law enforcement, participate in the criminal justice system, or seek a protection or restraining order against the offender, and penalize them for failing to do so.
10. Procedures or policies that deny victims and non-abusing parents or caretakers and their children access to services based on their involvement with the perpetrator;
11. Requiring survivors to meet restrictive conditions in order to receive services (e.g. background checks of victims; clinical evaluations to determine eligibility for services, etc.) or other screening processes that elicit information that is not necessary for services, such as questions about immigration status, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, physical or mental health, and work or criminal history that the service provider does not need to know about to provide services safely;
12. Relying on batterer intervention programs that do not use court monitoring to hold batterers accountable for their behavior;
13. Policies and procedures that fail to account for the physical safety of victims;
14. Enforcing or promoting nuisance abatement ordinances, crime-free housing ordinances, or crime-free lease addenda (often associated with crime-free housing programs) that require or encourage the eviction of tenants or residents who may be victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence or stalking. See also the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for guidance on how such ordinances and addenda may violate the Fair Housing Act; and
15. Policies or procedures that require testing of sexual assault forensic evidence in cases where the victim obtained a medical forensic exam but has not chosen to participate in the criminal justice system.

As determined by OVW the activities listed below are unallowable and will not be supported by STOP Formula Grant Program funding.

1. Lobbying, except with explicit statutory authorization;
2. Fundraising;
3. Purchase of real property;
4. Physical modifications to buildings, including minor renovations (such as painting or carpeting); and
5. Construction.

2019 Consultation with Victim Services

The OVW requires that all STOP VAWA funded State, local, and Tribal law enforcement, prosecution and court related applicants certify that they have consulted with victim services programs during the course of the development of their applications.

Sexual Assault Set-Aside

The Reauthorization of VAWA 2013 requires “not less than 20 percent of the total amount granted to a state under this subchapter shall be allocated to programs or projects in 2 or more allocations [victim services, courts, law enforcement, or prosecution] that meaningfully address sexual assault, including stranger rape, acquaintance rape, alcohol or drug-facilitated rape, and rape within the context of an intimate partner relationship.” The 20 percent is counted on the total amount granted to the state but is not a separate allocation. Examples of programs are Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners, Sexual Assault Response Teams, or trainings. By statute, the allocation categories for STOP VAWA applications are not determined by type of agency (as in the past), but rather the purpose of the program.

Meaningful sexual assault services must be comprehensive and tailored for different forms of sexual assault and address the effects of trauma through supportive healing processes. Services must be provided by staff specializing or specifically trained to meet the unique needs and concerns of sexual assault victims/survivors. *Because the needs of sexual violence survivors are not the same as those of domestic violence survivors, dual/multi-services agencies will need to demonstrate the specific intent to serve sexual assault victims/survivors outside the context of interpersonal violence and how those services will be provided.*

V. Application Requirements

Applications and all components must be submitted based upon a **12-month** project period and *must* include the following:

Section 1: Face Page

The Face Page is automatically generated in the application system and identifies the applicant agency, project director who must be an employee of the applicant agency, project title, project duration, and total number of months of federal support for any previous project.

Section 2: Project Budget

The Project Budget form categorizes requests for Personnel, Contracted Services, Travel and Per Diem, Equipment, and Operating Expenses. Budget requests must be (1) complete, allowable, and cost-effective in relation to the proposed activities; and (2) directly relate to the development, implementation, or operation of the specific project.

- **Supplanting**
Funds must be used to supplement existing funds for program activities and cannot replace, or supplant, nonfederal funds that have been appropriated for the same purpose.
- **Federal Indirect Cost Rate Agreement**
Indirect costs must be requested in accordance with [Uniform Guidance found in 2 C.F.R. Part 200](#). Applicants using a Federally Approved Indirect Cost Rate plan or negotiated indirect cost rate plan, *must* upload a copy of the document. If no document is provided, indirect costs requests will not be considered. Refer to [Indirect Costs](#) for additional information.

- **Cash or In-Kind Match**

The budget must include the required match as a percentage of the total project budget. Specifics of the match must be clearly identified in both Section 2 and Section 3.

- **How to Calculate Match**

Formula:					
Step 1	Grant Request Amount	÷	% of Federal Share	=	Total (Adjusted) Project Cost
Step 2	Total (Adjusted) Project Cost	x	% of Recipient's Share	=	Required Match
Example:					
Match Requirement - 75/25 (Federal/Recipient) Federal Award = \$50,000					
Step 1	\$50,000	÷	75% Federal Share	=	\$66,667
Step 2	\$66,667	x	25% Recipient's Share	=	\$16,667

Section 3: Budget Narrative

The Budget Narrative must:

- explain and justify all budget items by category;
- demonstrate all costs are reasonable;
- explain the relationship between budgeted items and project activities;
- show detailed cost calculations to demonstrate how the applicant arrived at the total amount requested; and
- include the source of match, identify anticipated expenses to be covered by the match, and document the basis for determining the value of any in-kind match.

If personnel costs are included in the budget, timesheets must be maintained to track actual time worked and must show all funding sources. Any personnel being used as match (volunteers, personnel, etc.) must maintain timesheets to track actual time worked. Timesheets must be signed by the employee/volunteer and certified by a supervisor.

For example:

- show the annual salary rate and the percentage of time devoted to the project for each employee paid with requested funds.
- detail why planned in-person meetings are necessary, or how technology and collaboration with outside organizations could be used to reduce costs, without compromising quality.

Section 4: Project Narrative

The Project Narrative includes a detailed description of the purpose, needs, goal(s), objectives, implementation, evaluation, collaboration, and sustainability plans for the proposed project. The Project Narrative must be written in a 12-point font, double-spaced, and kept to a maximum of 24 pages. Material required under the Budget Narrative, Executive Summary, and Other Required Documents sections will not count toward the Project Narrative page count.

The Project Narrative *must* contain the following elements:

- *Executive Summary*

Summarize the purpose of the planned project, stating the problem or need. Identify activities and outcomes to be achieved. Explain how the proposed project addresses the purpose area(s) identified. This section should be limited to four (4), double-spaced pages.

- *Needs Statement*

Identify the problem(s) to be addressed and validate the need for the proposed program and services. Include current regional or community and statewide data that is less than 5 years old to justify the grant request. The date range of the data must be identified.

- *Goal(s)*

Provide a broad statement that conveys the intent to change, reduce, or eliminate the described problem. Outline the specific goal(s) of the proposed project. The goal(s) must be clearly defined, dynamic, realistic, and attainable and should adhere to the purpose area(s).

- *Objectives*

Identify the specific milestones aimed at achieving the proposed project goal(s). Objectives should be directly related to the goal(s). Objectives *must*:

- Start with the word 'To' and an action verb (for example: to provide, to establish);
- State the date when the milestone will be reached; and
- Be specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and time-bound.

A minimum of three (3) and a maximum of five (5) objectives are required.

- *Implementation Plan*

Include a complete Implementation Plan with objectives, specific action steps, responsible person(s), timelines, resources needed, and projected costs.

Implementation Plan Example:

Goal	Significantly reduce the achievement gap across specified student subgroups.			
Objective	Provide mentors for at-risk students.			
Activity / Action Step	Responsible Person(s)	Timeline	Resources Needed	Projected Costs
Develop program referral process and referral form.	Program Manager and School Counselor	Quarter 1	10 Staff Hours Total to develop referral process and create referral form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● \$500 to print referral forms (paid by grant) ● \$200 for Program Manager to develop referral process and form (paid by grant) ● \$220 for School Counselor to develop referral process and form (paid by school district)
Identify students for Mentoring Program through self and staff referrals.	Program Manager and School Counselor	Ongoing throughout life of project (Quarters 1, 2, 3, and 4)	10 Staff Hours Weekly to Review, Discuss, and Admit Students to Program (5 hours each for Program Manager and School Counselor)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● \$10,400 for Program Manager per year to Identify students (paid by grant) ● \$10,400 for School Counselor per year to Identify students (paid by school district)

● *Evaluation Plan*

Describe how the proposed project is to be evaluated, throughout the duration of the project, to meet the program goal(s). The plan should clearly state:

- what evidence will indicate progress; and
- how, when, and by whom evaluations will be conducted.

Include existing baseline data and the agency's commitment to provide pre and post data related to specific performance measures. Data collected should verify objectives have been met.

- *Collaboration Plan*

Describe and demonstrate how the project will promote significant coordinated public and private efforts. This includes, but is not limited to describing:

- partnerships built through the grant;
- multi-disciplinary teams created to reach program objectives;
- how the established partnerships compliment one another's programs; and
- how the community supports the proposed project.

Evidence of collaboration may be in the form of a LOS or MOU. The LOS or MOU must specifically cite the type of support being offered, such as office space, volunteer time, participation in planning, or other appropriate services, and must be uploaded as indicated in Section 7.

- *Sustainability Plan*

Include a plan outlining capacity to support and sustain the proposed project after federal funding ends. The plan should describe the community's financial support, funding opportunities *outside* of grants from MBCC, other federal or state grants, and challenges to sustaining the program. Applying for additional MBCC grants is not considered an adequate sustainability plan.

Section 5: Special Assurances and Conditions

The online subgrant application contains a list of Special Assurances and Conditions that are part of the contract between MBCC and the subgrantee upon award. The Signature Page of the application binds the applicant to the Special Assurances and Conditions.

Section 6: Signature Page

The application requires original signatures of an Official Budget Representative, Project Director, and Financial Officer. The Signature Page, *with original signatures*, must be scanned and uploaded into the OSAS in Section 7. Electronic and stamped signatures are not acceptable. No single person can sign as the Official Budget Representative and Project Director. The Official Budget Representative must be a person with budget-setting authority, generally a mayor, chairperson, or department director. The Project Director must be an employee of the applicant agency.

Section 7: Required Documents

Do not submit documents other than those specified in this solicitation. Any materials submitted as part of an application may be released pursuant to a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

Documents required under this RFP, that must be uploaded into the OSAS include:

- Budget Narrative
- Project Narrative
- Signature Page, with original signatures from all parties listed in Section 6 (stamped or electronic signatures are not acceptable)
- A copy of the current, active SAM registration, showing current DUNS number
- [Accounting System and Financial Capability Questionnaire](#). Federal regulations require applicants to establish and maintain proper accounting systems and financial records to include policies and procedures.
- [2019 Consultation with Victim Services Programs](#). Prosecution, law enforcement and court-based applicants are required to consult with state or local victim service programs

during the course of developing their grant applications in order to ensure that the proposed services, activities and equipment acquisitions are designed to promote the safety, confidentiality and economic independence of victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence.

- [2019 STOP VAWA Sexual Assault Program Response](#). Identify the percentage of program funding and the dollar amount of program funds dedicated to sexual assault, domestic and/or dating violence, and stalking. Then provide a description of how your program meaningfully addresses sexual assault victimizations.
 - [2019 VAWA Information Sheet](#).
 - Position descriptions if personnel are requested in the budget.
 - Organization list: Include a list of agency personnel and personnel working directly on the proposed project.
 - Federal Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)
 - MOU for Crime Data Reporting (if applicable)
- If the applicant organization is a unit of local government, MBCC requires the local government applicant (and/or group of applicants listed within a collaborative agreement) to be compliant with the [Crime Data Reporting Policy](#).

Additional Documents Required of Non-Profit Applicants

The following documents are required and must be uploaded into the OSAS:

- A copy of current Non-Profit status determination
- Listing of Current Board Members providing information on board compilation, positions, and individual contact information.
- Faith-based organizations are required to provide the Certificate of Exemption for Hiring Practices on the Basis of Religion if seeking an exemption to the prohibition against religious discrimination in hiring.

Questions or Clarification

Applicants having questions or requiring clarification or interpretation of any section within this RFP must address these issues via the MBCC website on or before **January 11, 2019** at 5:00 p.m. Questions shall be submitted using the online MBCC RFP Question and Answer Request found at <http://mbcc.mt.gov/Funding/Grant-Offerings>, under **#19-02 (W)**. Clear reference to the section, page, and item in question must be included in the request. Questions received after the deadline will not be considered. Program specific questions cannot be addressed during the solicitation period.

Written responses to all questions received by the deadline will be posted on the MBCC website, under **#19-02 (W)** RFP Question and Answer Request. Applicants should consult the RFP Question and Answer Requests prior to posting a question to avoid duplication and prior to submitting an application to avoid missing potentially assistive material. Any other form of interpretation of this RFP will not be binding upon MBCC.

Crime Statistics

Applicants may utilize crime data that is collected by the MBCC Statistical Analysis Center to include in their proposals. Montana's Incident-Based Reporting System (MTIBRS) is an analytical/statistical tool. Users can select reports based on offense, offender/arrestee, victim, and property data elements or can create their own custom reports based on multiple variables. Data from 2005 to the most current complete calendar year is available.

For assistance in accessing MTIBRS or for technical assistance regarding crime statistics, applicants should request information using the online MBCC RFP Question and Answer Request found at <http://mbcc.mt.gov/Funding/Grant-Offerings> under this RFP number. Assistance must be requested at least five working days before the RFP deadline.

Receipt Verification

All applications received by the due date will receive a letter of acknowledgment and will be assigned a grant number and a Crime Control Bureau contact person. Late applications will not be reviewed.

VI. Limitations and Fund Use

All MBCC grant funds are governed by the U.S. Department of Justice grant program's legislation, statutes, and regulations and the [Uniform Guidance found in 2 C.F.R. 200](#) of the Office of Management and Budget. In addition to the DOJ, the Office of the Chief Financial Officer provides policy guidance, financial control, and support services in the areas of grants, accounting, and financial management.

To be allowable under federal awards, costs must meet the following general criteria:

- Be necessary, reasonable, and allocable for proper and efficient performance and administration of the award;
- Be authorized or not prohibited under State, local or tribal laws or regulations;
- Conform to any limitations or exclusions set forth in the Uniform Guidance or other governing regulations as to types or amounts of cost items;
- Be consistent with policies, regulations, and procedures that apply uniformly to both federal awards and other activities of the organization;
- Be accorded consistent treatment (a cost may not be assigned to a federal award as a direct cost if any other cost incurred for the same purpose in a like circumstance has been allocated to the federal award as an indirect cost);
- Be determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
- Not be included as a cost or used to meet cost sharing or matching requirements of any other federal award in either the current or a prior period, except as specifically provided by federal law or regulation; and
- Be adequately documented.

For specific information regarding allowable or unallowable costs, refer to the [Uniform Guidance found in 2 C.F.R. 200](#). For Montana-specific regulations, refer to the [Montana Operations Manual](#).

VII. Application Processing and Award

Initial Screening

An initial screening will be completed to check the application for completeness. If any required documents are not submitted, the application will be deemed incomplete and disqualified from consideration. Disqualified applicants will receive a letter indicating disqualification.

Scoring

Successfully screened applications will be scored for responsiveness to the program scope and the requirements of this RFP. Based on the assessment of each applicant regarding current or previous funding, unresolved audit issues, delinquent programmatic and fiscal reporting, and prior performance, an applicant may be designated "high risk."

The following scoring criteria will be used to evaluate each application, with different weight given to each, based on the percentage value listed:

Executive Summary	5% of 100
Budget and Budget Narrative	20% of 100
Needs Statement	25% of 100
Goals	10% of 100
Objectives	10% of 100
Implementation Plan	15% of 100
Evaluation Plan	5% of 100
Collaboration Plan	5% of 100
Sustainability Plan	5% of 100

Any proposal failing to achieve 60% of the total available points will be recommended for elimination from further consideration.

Proposals receiving a score of 60% and above will be referred to the MBCC Application Review Committee (ARC). The ARC will provide recommendations to the MBCC Board of Directors for final funding decisions/awards. Applicants will receive written notice of the ARC recommendation.

Appeals

Per Board policy, if the ARC recommends denial, the applicant may appeal the recommendation. The appeal must include one of the following criteria:

- The Request for Proposal was inaccurate;
- Staff provided misinformation;
- Staff failed to follow MBCC policy;
- A specific geographic region would no longer have any available program in a service category; or
- The application did not achieve the required minimum score.

Notice of Appeal must be made in writing to the Crime Control Bureau Chief within ten working days of notice of the ARC recommendation.

Awards

The MBCC Board of Directors will review all ARC recommendations and reserves the right to make final funding decisions. Following Board approval, each applicant will receive either an Intent to Award Notice or a denial letter. If funded, the application and award documents form a legal and binding agreement with MBCC requiring the applicant to perform all goals and objectives as submitted, and to adhere to the approved budget. Awards to high risk applicants may carry additional special conditions such as increased monitoring and/or prohibitions on reimbursement until certain requirements are met. High risk grantees with substantial or persistent performance or compliance issues, long-standing open audits, or open criminal investigations will likely result in a delay in funds until issues are resolved.

VIII. Grantee Responsibilities Post-Award

Reporting

Grantees must submit online reports within ten days following the end of each reporting period. These reports include, but are not limited to:

- Financial Reports
- Program Narratives
- Annual MUSKIE Report

Quarterly reporting periods are as follows:

Reporting Period	Report Due Date
Quarter 1: July 1 – September 30	October 10
Quarter 2: October 1 – December 31	January 10
Quarter 3: January 1 – March 31	April 10
Quarter 4: April 1 – June 30	July 10

Grantee acknowledges that failure to provide reporting as required *will* cause grant funding to be delayed or rescinded.

IX. Application Checklist

Refer to this checklist before submitting the online application and required additional documentation.

	Project Budget
	Budget Narrative
	Project Narrative
	Signature Page with Original Signatures
	SAM Verification
	DUNS Verification
	Accounting System and Financial Capability Questionnaire
	2019 Consultation with Victim Services Programs
	2019 STOP VAWA Sexual Assault Program Response
	2019 VAWA Information Sheet
	Position Descriptions (if personnel are requested in budget)
	Organization List
	Non-Profit Status Verification (if applicable)
	Listing of Current Board Members (if applicable)
	Certificate of Exemption for Hiring Practices on the Basis of Religion (if applicable)
	Federal Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)
	MOU for Crime Data Reporting (if applicable)

