

## Grant Programs [ edit ]

There are currently twenty-four grant programs that the OVW administers. Twenty of these programs use discretionary grants, which are a specific type of [grant](#) in which the Office determines both how funds will be used and in what context.<sup>[6]</sup> The remaining four grants are [formula grants](#), which are grants that must be distributed according to how the legislation describes.<sup>[6]</sup> In order to receive a project grant, the grant must meet certain standards and qualifications and the recipient must be eligible for the grant.<sup>[6]</sup>

### Current Formula Grant Programs [ edit ]

Name	Description
STOP (Services, Training, Officers, and Prosecutors) Violence Against Women Formula Grants to States	<p>According to the <a href="#">Department of Justice</a>, this program encourages law enforcement and criminal justice systems to improve their strategies and advocacy in response to violent crimes against women.<sup>[6]</sup> This grant requires that state governments, organizations, and tribes "allocate 25 percent of the grant funds to law enforcement, 25 percent to prosecution, 5 percent to courts, and 30 percent to victim services. The remaining 15 percent is discretionary within the parameters of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).<sup>[29]</sup>"</p> <p>According to Robert D. Evans representing the <a href="#">American Bar Association</a> in congressional testimony for the VAWA of 2005, "VAWA-funded programs, including the Civil Legal Assistance and STOP Grants programs, have improved and aided in the prosecution of domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse cases; provided necessary training and support for law enforcement personnel; and increased civil legal services for victims of domestic violence, especially in the areas of civil protection orders and family law matters.<sup>[30]</sup>" STOP grants (Services, Training, Officers, Prosecutors) were appropriated \$175 million, and an additional \$50 million went to Transitional Housing Assistance Grants.<sup>[31]</sup> A <a href="#">Criminal Justice Policy Review</a> on this program and its effectiveness revealed that an increase of involvement of agencies with the community leads to a greater likelihood of programs experiencing success.<sup>[32]</sup></p>
Sexual Assault Services Program	<p>SASP's mission is "to provide intervention, advocacy, accompaniment, support services, and related assistance" for all who are adversely affected by sexual assault. The utilities include a 24-hour sexual assault hotline and the maintenance/expansion of rape crisis centers.<sup>[6]</sup> More specifically, the grants for SASP help rape prevention clinics to provide up-to-date technology and methods of communication between young victims of sexual assault and caregivers. These public awareness campaigns play a critical role in informing teenagers of their rights and responsibilities with respect to sexual abuse. A fraction of SASP's funds support the <a href="#">National Sexual Violence Resource Center</a>, which contains resources related to sexual violence.<sup>[33]</sup> VAWA 2005 authorized the appropriation of \$50 million for each of Fiscal Years 2007 through 2011 for SASP <sup>[34]</sup>"</p>

Name	Description
State and Territorial Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Coalitions Program	This program creates statewide sexual assault coalitions that work with federal and local entities to support victims through advocacy, education, training and other services. <sup>[6]</sup> According to the VAWA Measuring Effectiveness Initiative of the Muskie School of Public Service at the <a href="#">University of Southern Maine</a> , the VAWA of 2000 required the grant recipients and Attorney General to collect data that measures the effectiveness of each grant in the community where the money was donated in a semi-annual progress report. <sup>[35]</sup>
Grants to Tribal Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Coalitions	The Tribal Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Coalitions Program (Tribal Coalitions Program) targets non-profit organizations, groups and individuals to improve systems of advocacy in Indian Tribes in order to help the women living there. The Tribal Coalitions Program primarily pursues and works with judicial agencies and police to organize well-coordinated responses to sexual assault within the state, tribe or territory. <sup>[36]</sup>

## Current Discretionary Grant Programs [ [edit](#) ]

Name	Description
Campus Grant Program	The "Grants to Reduce Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking on Campus Program" give money to institutions of higher education to help them improve their services, policies and protocols regarding domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. <sup>[7][37]</sup> With this grant, institutions are required to "create a coordinated community response to violence against women on campus <sup>[7]</sup> ", including forging external partnerships with law enforcement, non-profit organizations and the courts, as well as internal relationships with on-campus offices and organizations. <sup>[7]</sup> Additionally, the institutions must create a mandatory prevention and education program, a judicial or disciplinary board and provide for law enforcement training "to effectively respond in sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking cases on campus. <sup>[7]</sup> "
Culturally and Linguistically Specific Services for Victims Program	This grant aims to fund successful already existing programs that serve specific groups of victims. <sup>[38]</sup> In addition, the grant is designed to enhance the access that victims, children and families have to local services and resources. <sup>[38]</sup> The focus of the grant is on community-based programs that provide culturally and linguistically specific services to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. <sup>[38]</sup>
Education, Training and Enhanced Services to End Violence Against and Abuse of Women with Disabilities	This program's mission is to promote organizations that provide services for women with disabilities. <sup>[39]</sup> The grant targets individuals with disabilities and funds programs that supply education, advocacy, and outreach for them. The grant also provides for cross-training with participating organizations, technical assistance to modify policies and protocols and funding to improve existing facilities to better serve deaf individuals or those with other disabilities. <sup>[40]</sup>

Name	Description
Tribal SASP and SASP-Cultural	SASP, the Sexual Assault Services Program, has a separate grant designated for Native American Tribes as well as another separate grant for nonprofits that support culturally specific communities. <sup>[38]</sup> The goals of both of these grants are to "[t]o provide direct intervention services and related assistance to victims of sexual violence and others collaterally affected <sup>[41]</sup> " These services include advocacy, support groups, hotlines, crisis intervention, and training of agency members and outreach by agency members to make communities aware of the services that are available to them. <sup>[38][41]</sup> Both grants provide for prevention efforts, research projects, criminal justice related projects, forensic medical examiner projects and training of other organizations or professionals. <sup>[38][41]</sup>
Enhanced Training and Services to End Violence and Abuse of Women Later in Life Program	The objective of this grant is to address the needs of women 50 years and older by providing for training and other services that meet their specific needs. <sup>[42]</sup> States, units of local government, Indian Tribal governments or Tribal organizations, nonprofit and nongovernmental victim services organizations with demonstrated experience in assisting elderly women or demonstrated experience in addressing sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking are eligible for this grant. Specific programs and areas of interest for this grant are focused on improving law enforcement, courts, government and community responses to sexual assault against victims over the age of 50 as well as providing for cross-training and enhancing services for victims. <sup>[42]</sup>
Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders	The aim of this program is to promote "the Department of Justice's mission by encouraging State, local, and Tribal governments and State, local, and Tribal courts to treat sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking as serious violations of criminal law requiring the coordinated involvement of the entire criminal justice system. <sup>[43]</sup> " Additionally, "[t]he Arrest Program challenges the community to listen, communicate, identify problems, and share ideas that will result in new responses to ensure victim safety and offender accountability." <sup>[44]</sup> Purpose areas of the grant include pro-arrest programs in police departments, new policies and educational programs for judges and police, as well as coordinated computer tracking systems and centralized police enforcement of policies. <sup>[44]</sup> E. Assata Wright for <i>On The Issues</i> notes that the mandatory arrest policy can be problematic with dual arresting because if a woman hits her abuser, she may be arrested in addition to the attacker, which discourages women from defending themselves and/or calling the police. <sup>[45]</sup>
Grants to Tribal Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault	The Tribal Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Coalitions Program (Tribal Coalitions Program) targets non-profit organizations, groups and individuals to improve systems of advocacy in Indian Tribes in order to help the women living there. The Tribal Coalitions Program primarily pursues and works with judicial agencies and police to organize well-coordinated responses to sexual assault within the state, tribe or territory. <sup>[36]</sup>
Coalitions Legal Assistance for Victims Grant Program	This program is designed to make it easier for victims of abuse or violence to get access to "civil and criminal legal assistance." <sup>[46]</sup> The main goal of the Legal Assistance Program is to provide representation for victims of violent crime through innovative, collaborative programs. <sup>[6]</sup> Camille Carey in the <i>Columbia Journal of Gender and the Law</i> noted that these grants generally go towards representation in family law cases and this can leave victims of domestic violence outside family court jurisdiction with their needs unmet. <sup>[47]</sup>

Name	Description
Rural Grant Program	The Rural Grant Program works to lessen the frequency and effect of sexual crimes occurring in rural areas. It utilizes a collaborative approaches amongst the community, including those members of the legal system, to offer victims as much support as possible. <sup>[6]</sup> A study by Mitchell Brown for the <a href="#">Public Administration Review</a> noted that this program contributed to modest positive improvements in communities that were affected by these grants, but that there was little evidence grants would have long term positive benefits beyond the grant period. <sup>[48]</sup>
Transitional Housing Grant Program	The Transitional Housing Assistance Program Grant for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking, or Sexual Assault Program (Transitional Housing Assistance Program) aims to move victims to permanent housing by creating well-rounded, victim-centered transitional housing programs. <sup>[6]</sup> Besides these specifically mentioned grant programs, the Senate bill that enacted the VAWA also created National Domestic Violence Hotline and provided grants for police training and other additional training in the judicial system. The bill also reassessed current laws on prosecuting domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking and provided for the creation of new laws to address gaps in jurisdiction. <sup>[33]</sup> According to the non-profit Break the Cycle, the community focus of many of these grants has made the legislation influential in improving services, advocacy, and responses by criminal justice across the country. <sup>[33]</sup>

## Formerly Authorized Grant Programs [ [edit](#) ]

Activities previously funded by these grant programs are supported by the Consolidated Youth Program.<sup>[6]</sup>

Name	Description
Court Training and Improvements Program	This program is designed to improve the <a href="#">United States' court system</a> by awarding grant money for a period of 36 months by the creation of either a Sexual Assault or a Domestic Violence Docket, a Dedicated Sexual Assault or a Domestic Violence Court, or Specialized Court Enhancement. Additionally, courts may apply for funding for Judicial Education or Staff Training for a budget period of 24 months to allow their staff to better address dating violence, sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking issues. <sup>[49]</sup>
Engaging Men and Youth Program	This program supports projects that create public education campaigns and community organizing to encourage men and boys to work as allies with women and girls to prevent sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. <sup>[6]</sup> According to Futures Without Violence, <sup>[50]</sup> one of the recipients of this grant, this program will focus on the role that men hold in preventing (both directly and indirectly) violence against women by being their allies and supporters. <sup>[51]</sup> In April of 2011, the Department of Justice announced there would be \$6.9 million in grants awarded to 23 projects. <sup>[52]</sup> These initiatives were proposed by non-profit, state, and governmental institutions as a part of "OVW's ongoing commitment to support gender and culturally specific education on healthy relationships and strengthen existing community outreach efforts to men and boys <sup>[52]</sup> "

Name	Description
Children and Youth Exposed to Violence Grant Program	The VAWA of 2005 authorized the use of \$20 million for the fiscal years 2007-2011 for the Children and Youth Exposed to Violence Grant program. <sup>[53]</sup> This program specifically targets children: it is designed to decrease the effects that domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking may have on youth, and lessen the risks of their future victimization. <sup>[6]</sup> By supporting programs that provide "direct counseling, advocacy, or mentoring <sup>[6]</sup> ", and coordinating programs that refer families and children to direct services and service providers, the Children and Youth Exposed to Violence Grant Program aims to help "[v]ictim service providers, tribal nonprofit organizations, and community-based organizations." <sup>[53]</sup>
Safe Havens: Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Grant Program	The Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Grant Program helps children of victims get the safe environment that they require to grow up emotionally healthy. Because domestic violence can be difficult on children, this program ensures that their safety is of paramount importance. <sup>[6]</sup>
Services to Advocate for and Respond to Youth Grant Program	By using information from the past and newer modeling techniques, this program aims to optimally respond to victims' needs post trauma. <sup>[6]</sup> This program was highlighted in the VAWA of 2005, which provides for training to prepare those who work with children and young adults to diagnose and treat victims. <sup>[33]</sup>
Services, Training, Education and Policies (STEP) to Reduce Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking in Secondary Schools Grant Program (STEP)	The STEP program received an appropriation of \$5 million from VAWA 2005 for Fiscal Years 2007 through 2011. <sup>[54]</sup> This program is designed to "support middle and high schools to develop and implement effective training, services, prevention strategies, policies, and coordinated community responses for student victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking <sup>[54]</sup> " The non-profit Break the Cycle in Washington D.C. notes that STEP in the 2005 VAWA will help both middle and high school students, and the schools themselves, to create safe environments for young victims. <sup>[33]</sup>

Besides these specifically mentioned grant programs, the Senate bill that enacted the VAWA also created National Domestic Violence Hotline and provided grants for police training and other additional training in the judicial system. The bill also reassessed current laws on prosecuting domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking and provided for the creation of new laws to address gaps in jurisdiction.<sup>[42]</sup> According to the non-profit Break the Cycle, the community focus of many of these grants has made the legislation influential in improving services, advocacy, and responses by criminal justice across the country.<sup>[42]</sup>