

Professional Development for ECM Task Force Members



Training and professional development supports task forces to build capacity and increase skills and knowledge to identify victims of all forms of trafficking, provide victims with access to services, and seek justice on their behalf (which can include investigating and prosecuting traffickers at the local, state, tribal, and federal levels). OVC encourages ECM task forces to seek a wide range of professional development and training opportunities that aligns with the ECM Program and supports their multidisciplinary efforts.

When using OVC funds, there are **two** types of events that can help task force members fulfill this purpose:

Office of Justice Programs (OJP) Events

Generally, Department of Justice OJP-sponsored events do not require pre-approval and are marketed and sent directly to ECM Grant Award Administrators (GAA) post award by OVC, Project Roadmap, and other TTA providers over the grant period. These are trainings that all task forces are required to budget travel for to support attendance as part of their OVC ECM grant award. Please review your grant year's solicitation for reference.

Non-OJP Events

Non-OJP sponsored events require ECM Task Forces to receive prior approval from their OVC grant manager **to use OVC funds** to register and attend these events.

Using ECM grant funds to attend **non-OJP events**, trainings and other professional development opportunities may involve the following steps:

Determine if training funds are in the approved award budget.

- Determine if the event or training is aligned with ECM task force solicitation goals, objectives, deliverables, and priorities.
- Submit a request with a justification to the OVC grant manager.

 In general: Include the name of the event, an agenda, and what staff will attend.
- Receive approval from the OVC grant manager.

Please note that there are instances where training from peripheral fields may benefit anti-trafficking work, even if the training content is not tailored to address human trafficking. In these cases, include how the training has overall relevance to the ECM task force goals and objectives in the justification.

GRANT CONSIDERATIONS

- Is the content related to your ECM goals, objectives, and/or deliverables?
- Have you attended a training or conference covering the same topic(s) within the last year?
- Have you attended any OJP sponsored ECM Trainings?

TRAINING/CONFERENCE CONTENT CONSIDERATIONS

- Does the training or conference content address labor or sex trafficking? Both?
- Is the training or conference content relevant and current?

OVC encourages task forces to identify and attend training that represents a wide variety of topics. The chart below includes possible topics that align with task force goals, objectives, and priorities:

Collaboration	Access to Services	Seeking Justice
coalition building	trauma-informed and victim-centered care	victim-centered investigations
fostering equitable	culturally responsive services	the science of trauma
relationships/power sharing systems coordination	trust and rapport building	(and impact on memory) trust and rapport building
community organizing strategies	outreach and identification	trauma-informed practices while preparing for trial
protocol development	confidentiality	forensic interviewing
community buy-in and engagement	ethical social work practice	victim-centered prosecutions
co-leadership	harm reduction	seeking restitution
conflict resolution	case management	corroborating evidence
change management	safety planning	victim interviewing
training facilitation	advocacy in systems	utilizing expert witnesses
collaborative solutions to addressing human trafficking	voluntary services and empowerment-based approaches	collaboration amongst law enforcement and governmental partners

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- Does the language/marketing of the training or conference include 'all types of populations impacted by human trafficking' and a diversity of trafficking situations²?
- As you craft a comprehensive professional development plan for the three-year ECM funding, does the training/conference support your efforts to address all impacted populations and a diversity of trafficking situations, including under-identified communities?

² This includes labor and sex trafficking in a variety of industries, including but not limited to agriculture, construction, domestic work, factories and manufacturing, healthcare, hospitality (food and beverage services, tourism, hotels, restaurants, and bars), landscaping, traveling sales, brothels, as well as on the internet.



¹ 'All types of populations impacted by human trafficking' include people of all genders (women, men, gender nonconforming people), of all ages (adults, youth and children), of all races and ethnicities (black, indigenous, multi-racial, white, Latine, Arab, African, Asian, South Asian, etc.), of all countries of origin (US born, foreign national), of all sexual orientations (including LGBTQIA+) and with all types of immigration status (US citizen, legal permanent resident, migrant or temporary worker, undocumented).