

This FY alone, DOJ has provided over \$3.9 billion in grant funding through three grantmaking components: (1) the OVW, (2) OJP, and (3) the COPS Office. Managing this funding presents a continued challenge for the Department. Through its audits and other oversight work, the OIG can help the Department ensure that it has adequate controls over the management of grant funds.

CVF Grants

Established by the Victims of Crime Act of 1984, the Crime Victims Fund (CVF) collects criminal fines and penalties, which are used to make distributions to states and territories through DOJ grants to support victim services. OJP administers the CVF by sending states and territories funding directly through victim assistance and compensation formula grants and awarding discretionary grants to state and local public and private entities.

The OIG has found that CVF grant recipients have struggled with the accuracy of state certification forms. The accuracy of these forms is important because they contain the information OJP's Office for Victims of Crime uses as the basis for determining the amount of future CVF victim compensation formula grant awards. The OIG identified issues with state certification forms in several recent audit reports, including those issued in [August 2022](#), [June 2022](#), [May 2022](#), and [December 2021](#). Other recent oversight work, such as the OIG's [August 2022](#), [June 2022](#), [March 2022](#), and [December 2021](#) audit reports, has highlighted CVF grantees' challenges with having adequate policies and procedures to ensure accurate reporting, which has impacted performance evaluation, financial management and accounting, and the sufficiency of supporting documentation for victim compensation claims. The OIG has made recommendations in these reports to help the Department more effectively administer CVF funds, therefore enhancing support for crime victims.

Other DOJ Grants

In FY 2021, DOJ awarded more than two-thirds (nearly \$2.7 billion) of its grant funds through non-CVF grant programs. The OIG continues to identify significant challenges with the management and administration of these grants. Two of the most pressing challenges for DOJ are the inadequate monitoring of grants and the functionality of its grants management system.

Grant Monitoring

Monitoring of grants is necessary to ensure that DOJ personnel are effectively providing oversight and the grant recipients are fiscally responsible with federal funds. Programmatic monitoring addresses the content and substance of the program and helps evaluate whether grant activities are consistent with the approved implementation plan and responsive to program goals and objectives. Programmatic monitoring also addresses compliance with grant special conditions or terms and conditions, reporting requirements, completeness of documentation, compliance with statutory regulations and certification requirements, and other policy guidelines. The OIG identified significant gaps in programmatic monitoring in several audits this past year. For example, the OIG found in a May 2022 [audit report](#) that, in part due to the COVID-19 2019 pandemic, the recipient of \$1.98 million in OJP grant funds could not demonstrate adequate progress toward achieving the awards' goals and objectives of providing services to human trafficking victims. The recipient also created a potential conflict of interest when it received proceeds from a business relationship between trafficking victims and a for-profit company. The OIG has also uncovered deficiencies with grantee performance monitoring, which are illustrated by a June 2022