

**Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Crime Victim Services Commission
VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT (VOCA)
VOCA CRIME VICTIM ASSISTANCE GRANTS**

CFDA 16.575

Questions and Answers

Q: Where can I find the posted RFP on EGrants?

A: EGrAMS is an Electronic Grants Administration and Management System used by the State of Michigan throughout the grant process. CVSC uses EGrAMS to process all grant application requests. EGrAMS security is based upon a series of permissions designed to limit user access to only those screens and functions they need to complete their grant work. The Project Director is a key permission for the applicant agency. The Project Director has access to the various application and progress reporting screens. The Project Director serves as the gatekeeper for the agency, assigning permissions to other users. To obtain the Project Director permission, the user must make a Project Director request. Before submitting a Project Director Request, the user's agency must be registered with EGrAMS and the user must have completed the Create User Profile step and be an active user in the EGrAMS system.

To gain access to the VOCA grant application and complete entry and submission under this RFP, a step-by-step instruction manual is available for your use. Visit the EGrAMS website at <https://egramsmi.com/dch>, and click the link "About EGrAMS" on the left-side panel to access the Crime Victims Competitive Agreement Instructions.

New to EGrAMS

Go to the EGrAMS Portal: <https://egramsmi.com/portal/>

Create an Agency Profile to register your Agency

Create User Profile for Project Director

Go to EGrAMS: <https://egramsmi.com/dch/>

Submit Project Director Request to Access to the VOCA Grant Application
CVSC must approve Project Director Request to create application.

Current Grantees

Go to EGrAMS: <https://egramsmi.com/dch/>

Submit Project Director Request to Access to the Grant Application
CVSC must approve Project Director Request to create application.

Q: When will the RFP's Questions and Answers be posted?

A: Questions and Answers will be posted on May 22, 2017. It will include questions asked during the webcasts and submitted in writing to the Commission.

Q: Is the webcast power point presented available for download.

A.. The power point presentation is available for download during the webcast and is posted in the RFP "Show Documents" link. This link is in the upper right hand corner of the application screen. It is titled: **Crime Victims Competitive Application Instructions.**

Q. What are the match requirements for the VOCA Grant?

A. The VOCA grant program has a 20% match requirement for non-profit and public agencies. Match can be cash or in-kind volunteer services. Native American Tribes are exempt from the match requirement. Please refer to Section II of the RFP. The match requirements and process for requesting a match waiver are in the VOCA Grant Program Administrative Guide.

Q: Would unserved victims of sexual assault include programs which have a waiting list for sexual assault victims.

A: Purpose Area 3 of this RFP is to improve services for sexual assault victims by offering basic core services; improve core services to implement comprehensive services; and to support SANE/SART response to victims with the emphasis on regional services. Applicants should review these service definitions and assess the needs for services within their region as you develop the application for funding is developed. A waiting list is one indicator of community need for services within an organization's service area.

Q: Can grant funds be used to train volunteers?

A: Yes

Q: There are no Children's Advocacy Centers in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Can an accredited CAC in lower Michigan offer services in the UP?

A: An applicant under this RFP must be accredited to offer services in the counties identified in the proposal. If an organization is not accredited to provide services in the Upper Peninsula they may not apply under this purpose area.

Q: A group of dedicated individuals from a variety of disciplines have been working to launch a Children's Advocacy Center in the Upper Peninsula. Can an applicant apply under this RFP to start-up a Child Advocacy Center?

A: This RFP is open to accredited CAC's organizations that are not currently VOCA funded. The Commission is supporting the Michigan Chapter of the National Children's Alliance to assist communities in the development of their Children's Advocacy Center. Once an organization is an accredited CAC they can apply at the next annual RFP. Information about the Chapter can be found at URL: www.mivoice4kids.org.

Q: If an applicant is interest in expanding to serve victims of human trafficking can planning be included in the application?

A: An applicant under Purpose Area 2 must demonstrate a history of serving victims of human trafficking. Please refer to Purpose Area 2 for an explanation of allowable activities.

Q: Can an organization that serves underserved victims but is not seeking funding under Purpose Area 1 – Trauma Recovery apply for funding in this RFP?

A: The applicant should apply under the 2nd RFP which will be posted in June. The RFP will be open to new applicants including those serving underserved crime victims.

Q: What competitive RFPs will be posted by the Commission for services which begin October 1, 2017?

A: The Commission will post two competitive grant applications for the upcoming fiscal year. The first RFP is seeking proposals to serve underserved crime victims or unserved crime victims. The second RFP will seek proposals for services to the priority category of victims including domestic violence victims, sexual assault victims, child abuse victims and underserved victims.

Q: Can current VOCA grantees apply for funding under this RFP?

A: A current grantee can apply under this RFP if their proposal will serve victims listed in one of the Purpose Areas in this RFP and is different victim types than their current grant.

Q: Can an American Indian Tribe this is a current grantee apply for funding under this RFP to expand services currently offered such as shelter and legal assistance?

A: Yes under Purpose Area 5.

Q: Can a new applicant apply under this RFP for to offer legal assistance?

A: The applicant should apply under the 2nd RFP which will be posted in June. The RFP will be open to new applicants.

Q: Can an Area Agency on Aging seeking to create services for elder victims of rape and sexual assault apply if they do not provide direct services to victims?

A: Purpose Area 3 of this RFP is intended to support sexual assault service organizations emphasizing a regional response and improving services to sexual assault victims. Please contact the local sexual assault programs to discuss the unmet needs of victims of sexual assault within your region and your interest in partnering to offer serve victims of sexual assault who are over 65 or who have dementia.

Q., We are a current grantee seeking funding to serve a different victim type than our current grant. Can we submit an application under Purpose Area 2 to serve victims of Human Trafficking?

A: Yes

Q: Can a current grantee apply under this RFP to provide funding to hire new staff to enhance services under their current grant?

A: No. A webcast will be held to inform current grantees about their upcoming year budget.

Q: Can an applicant apply for this RFP to offer transitional housing services to victims of domestic violence?

A: No. The 2nd RFP to be released in June is seeking proposals from new organizations serving victims including victims of domestic violence.

Q: The two year time limit for transitional housing and support services may not meet the needs of some victims including domestic violence or human trafficking. Is it possible to extend the time limit in transitional housing?

A: The Commission is seeking proposals to support housing and transitional housing in particular for the first time for services beginning October 1, 2017. The Commission will periodically evaluate the time limits placed on this service to determine if the policy is adequate to serve the needs of crime victims.