

PUBLIC NOTICE

LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Notice of Availability of Funds

Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2016 New Jersey College and University Sexual Violence Awareness and Response Grant Program

Take notice that, in compliance with N.J.S.A. 52:14-34.4, the Department of Law & Public Safety (Department), Office of the Attorney General announces the availability of the following grant program funds:

- a) Name of the Program:** FFY16 New Jersey College and University Sexual Violence Awareness and Response Grant Program. This program is supported by the Federal Fiscal Year 2016 (FFY16) Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Victim Assistance Grant Program.

- b) Purpose:** The purpose of the New Jersey College and University Sexual Violence Awareness and Response Grant Program is to expand programming to address and respond to sexual violence among college students. Recommendations contained in the report on “Addressing Campus Sexual Violence - Creating Safer Higher Education Communities” by the New Jersey Task Force on Campus Sexual Assault shall serve as the basis for programming. The report is available at the following website: <http://www.state.nj.us/highereducation/documents/pdf/index/sexualassaulttaskforcereport2017.pdf> and includes recommendations such as the following:

1. Each campus should conduct a sexual violence campus climate survey including validated research tools and methods.
2. Higher education institutions should ensure that there are adequate services available to assist students who are victims of alleged sexual assaults. These comprehensive services should include medical care, mental health support, and general counseling services that can be provided directly from on-campus resources or off-campus services.
3. Campuses are encouraged to develop written policies and procedures that are easily accessible to students and widely publicized.
4. Appropriate resources must be dedicated to insure the hiring, or through funded Memoranda of Understanding (MOU), the contracting of qualified professionals to conduct sexual violence prevention programming on campus.
5. Sexual violence prevention programming should be ongoing, use different modalities, and address various subgroups – individuals, peers and campus communities.
6. Education and training should be developed so that it is presented throughout the year and available to all students, faculty and staff to attend. A simple way in which this is accomplished is following national “of the month” schedules, including Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April.
7. Education on the relationship between substance abuse and sexual assault should include information on stages of intoxication and incapacitation, including that incapacitated people are unable to give consent.

Under VOCA, services are defined as those efforts that respond to the emotional and physical needs of crime victims; assist crime victims to stabilize their lives; assist crime victims to understand and participate in the criminal justice system; provide crime victims with a measure of safety and security; and provide specialized services to sexual assault victims.

To learn about the activities and costs that may be covered for subrecipients, please consult the new Final Rule (28 C.F.R. Part 94, Subpart B) for the Victims of Crime Act, Victim Assistance Program. You may find the final rule at the following website: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/07/08/2016-16085/victims-of-crime-act-victim-assistance-program>.

Examples of the types of services that may be considered for funding under the new Final Rule include, but are not limited, to the following:

1. Immediate emotional, psychological, and physical health and safety
2. Personal advocacy and emotional support
3. Mental health counseling and care
4. Peer-support
5. Facilitation of participation in criminal justice and other public proceedings arising from the crime
6. Emergency and certain non-emergency legal assistance
7. Public awareness
8. Personnel costs
9. Volunteer trainings and skills training for staff

10. Training-related travel
11. Maintenance, repair, or replacement of essential items
12. Project evaluation
13. Coordination of activities
14. Supervision of direct service providers
15. Multi-system, interagency, multi-disciplinary response to crime victim needs
16. Contracts for professional services
17. Automated systems and technology

c) **Available Funding:** The State of New Jersey, Office of the Attorney General, was awarded approximately \$61 million in its FFY 2016 VOCA award. Of this amount, \$6,000,000 will support the New Jersey College and University Sexual Violence Awareness and Response Grant Program, which awards funding to state colleges and universities, public research universities, independent colleges and universities and county colleges. These funds will be awarded on a competitive basis.

Applicants may apply for a maximum of \$500,000 per project for a 12-month grant period. The project period will begin October 1, 2018, and end on September 30, 2019. Only one application per college or university will be accepted. Continuation funding may be available, contingent upon the availability of Federal funding and the subrecipient's compliance with grant conditions and performance of its goals and objectives. A 20 percent match, cash or in-kind, is required by all applicants. For example, a \$500,000 award requires a \$125,000 match for a total grant award of \$625,000.

Applicants are encouraged to develop realistic budgets that will allow for full expenditure of subaward funds and fulfillment of the match requirement within the 12-month project period. Subaward extensions will not be permitted.

Please note that if you are unable to fulfill the match requirement, the Federal Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) may grant a full or partial waiver on a case-by-case basis. A match waiver form will be included in the application package. Your inability to meet the full match amount will not negatively bear upon the strength of your grant application.

- d) **Organizations which may apply for funding under this program:** State colleges and universities, public research universities, independent colleges and universities, and county colleges in New Jersey are eligible to apply.

- e) **Qualifications needed by an applicant to be considered for funding:** Applicants must be in good standing with all State and Federal agencies with which they have had an existing grant or contractual relationship. Where appropriate, all applicants must hold current professional and State licenses and certifications.

Applicant agencies and victim assistance programs must meet all applicable statutory and regulatory VOCA program eligibility requirements found at 34 U.S.C. § 20101 and 28 C.F.R. Part 94. The Department reserves the right to decline any and all applicants who cannot demonstrate proof of compliance with VOCA program requirements.

The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) of 2006 requires an agency to obtain a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and **register with**

the System for Award Management (SAM), formerly the Central Contractor Registration (CCR), to receive a Federal award or subaward.

Applicants without a current DUNS number(s) and SAM registration will be considered ineligible. Successful applicants will be required to complete a FFATA form upon award.

To be considered for funding, an eligible applicant must file a completed application, in accordance with the requirements of the program, by the submission deadline. **The following scored components must be included in the application:**

a. *Background, Mission, Experience, and Capability. 10 points*

Please describe in detail the applicant's mission, background and experience as it relates to the purpose and objectives of the proposed project. Explain the applicant's knowledge and capability to carry out the project based on demonstrated experience in providing victim services to the target population.

b. *Problem Statement/Needs Assessment. 15 points*

Please identify the specific problem(s), target population, and geographic area that the proposed project will address. Describe the needs and characteristics of the target population; local needs and conditions; describe existing services and identify gaps and/or barriers in services. Include current statistics and relevant facts to substantiate the need and selection of the proposed project.

c. *Project Description, including Goals, Objectives, and Work Plan (Action Strategy).*

30 points

Please specify clear, realistic goals for the proposed project. Identify objectives that are concise, measurable and clearly relate to the goals, problem statement/needs assessment, and target population. Measurable objectives shall include, but are not be limited to, the level of service to be provided. Describe in detail the project's approach or strategy for attaining each objective. Include a project work plan that specifies each objective along with the major activities, responsible staff and feasible time frames for each objective and activity.

Please note that OVC and the Department will place a strong emphasis on the use of evidence-based programs and practices and the use of data and evidence in policymaking and program development. Applicants that strive to improve the quantity and quality of evidence and integrate that evidence into program, practice, and policy decisions will be looked upon more favorably than those applicants that do not employ evidence-based practices.

d. *Partnership, Collaboration, and Coordination of and Linkages to Services.*

10 points

Partnerships, collaboration and/or coordination of services are strongly encouraged for all projects. Describe the applicant's partnership and/or coalition building strategy and use of volunteers. Applications for projects which require coordination of services among two or more agencies must contain a signed affiliation agreement. An affiliation

agreement must define roles, responsibilities, referral mechanisms, collaboration, and coordination efforts necessary for successful implementation of the project and must be signed by all affiliating agencies.

e. *Project Management and Staff. 10 points*

Please identify all project management and staff. Describe how personnel are uniquely qualified to manage and implement the project. Provide current resumes along with job descriptions for each position for which grant or matching funds are. The job description should detail the title and job responsibilities, as well as the education and experience necessary for the position.

Additionally, state if the position is full-time or part-time and the number of hours and percentage of time devoted to the project. Indicate if you will use existing staff or if you will recruit new staff for each position requested in the budget.

f. *Data Collection, Performance Measures, and Evaluation. 10 points*

Please list all data that will be collected. Describe the methods that will be used to measure the progress and impact of the project. (Subrecipients will be required to collect and report specific data relating to their project to the Department). Client feedback is strongly encouraged, so if your measurements do not include client feedback, an explanation must be provided.

Please note that awarded applicants will be required to enter VOCA-required data via quarterly performance metrics through OVC's online Performance Measurement Tool (PMT) located at <https://www.ovcpmt.org>.

g. *Budget and Budget Narrative. 15 points*

Please provide a detailed narrative justification for both the requested funds requested and match funds itemized on the Budget Detail Form by Budget Category. Costs must be specific and tied to the project objectives. Applicants should refer to the VOCA Program Administration and Funding Guidelines for a description of budget categories, allowable expenses and match requirements.

Please note that the new Final Rule (28 C.F.R. Part 94, Subpart B) for the Victims of Crime Act, Victim Assistance Program is effective. The new rule greatly expands the areas of allowable activities and costs for subrecipients. Please be sure to carefully review the Final Rule and submit requests ONLY for ALLOWABLE costs. You may find the final rule at the following website: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/07/08/2016-16085/victims-of-crime-act-victim-assistance-program>

f) Procedures for Eligible Organizations to Apply:

Application packages are available by contacting the Grants Development Section at (609) 376-2445 or on the website at <http://nj.gov/oag/grants/htm>. Applicants must complete and submit *one original and three copies* of the application by the submission deadline.

Applications that do not comply with the requirements of this Notice of Availability of Funds or the Program Administration and Funding Guidelines will not be considered. The Department reserves the right to decline any and all applications for funding and to award grants in amounts that may be other than requested. The submitted application may be subject to disclosure pursuant to the Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq.

g) Address of the State agency receiving the application:

Kerry Pimentel, Chief
Department of Law and Public Safety
Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex
Fifth Floor Reception
25 Market Street
P.O. Box 085
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0085

h) Deadline by which applications must be submitted:

Applications must be completed and filed **before 4:00 P.M. on August 7, 2018.**

Facsimiles or electronic mail will not be accepted.

i) Date by which notices shall be mailed of approval or disapproval of applications:

All applicants will be notified in writing on or about **September 7, 2018** whether or not their proposed project will be funded.

Please note that funding allocations and individual subaward amounts are subject to change. Subrecipients shall recognize and agree that both the initial provision of funding and the continuation of such funding under a grant agreement is expressly dependent upon the availability to the Department of funds appropriated by the State or Federal legislature from State and/or

Federal revenue to such other funding sources as may be applicable. A failure of the Department to make any payment under a grant agreement or to observe and perform any condition on its part to be performed under a grant agreement as a result of the failure of the State or Federal legislature to appropriate funds shall not in any manner constitute a breach of a grant agreement by the Department or an event of default under a grant agreement because of the absence of available funding appropriations. In addition, future funding shall not be anticipated from the Department beyond the duration of the award period set forth in a grant agreement and in no event shall a grant agreement be construed as a commitment by the Department to expend funds beyond the termination date set forth in a grant agreement.