



**ILLINOIS  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
INFORMATION AUTHORITY**

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*Last updated 7/7/17*

**VOCA UNMET NEEDS**

**RESPONSES TO APPLICANT QUESTIONS**

General Questions

1. Q: I received an email that the Notice of Funding posting was updated. Is there a summary of what was updated so I don't have to read the whole thing?  
A: Sure. We added the logic model and programmatic risk assessment as they were inadvertently not originally posted.
  
2. Q: The recorded TA session mentioned something about labeling the attachments and I want to make sure I label the attachments correctly. How should I label the attachments?  
A: Please see Section D2: Notice of Intent and Required Application Submission on pages 27-28 of the NOFO.

Eligibility Questions

3. Q: This funding opportunity excludes CASA programs. Will there be another NOFA coming which includes CASA program funding?  
  
A: Yes, criminal justice based victim services will be addressed in a future solicitation. See this memo: <http://www.icjia.state.il.us/news/icjia-announces-a-2017-2018-timeline-for-voca-competitive-funding-opportunities>
  
4. Q: Our agency is applying for funding through ICASA for FY 18, as we have in the past. Does that really mean we are not eligible to also apply for this grant directly from ICJIA? Will that be the case for other ICJIA grants?  
  
A: Thank you for your question regarding eligibility under the VOCA Unmet Needs NOFO. The intent of this eligibility requirement was to prevent VOCA funds, under different solicitations, to be used for the same services. Regarding the Unmet needs solicitation, any public agency or nonprofit organization that provides child abuse services beyond those funded through the coalitions may apply however the application must clearly explain the non-coalition funded services.

Eligibility criteria for future solicitations will be specific to each solicitation.

5. Q: Should a Safe From the Start site apply under this NOFO?  
A: As stated in the Unmet Needs solicitation: Under the Child Abuse Focus Area: Childhood exposure to violence is not the primary intent of this opportunity, however, services for such secondary victimization are allowable if the need is identified during the provision of child abuse services.
6. Q: Since we are collaborating with DCFS and several different domestic violence agencies, we are trying to figure out who should apply. The NOFO says that "sub-recipients of funding from ICADV are not eligible for funding." Does this mean that ICADV is itself ineligible? Are ICADV member agencies who do not receive funding from ICADV eligible for funding?  
  
A: The intent of this eligibility requirement was to prevent VOCA funds, under different solicitations, to be used for the same services. Regarding the Unmet needs solicitation, any public agency or nonprofit organization that provides child abuse services beyond those funded through the coalitions may apply however the application must clearly explain the non-coalition funded services. ICADV is not eligible but an ICADV member agency that does not receive ICADV funding could apply for funds.
7. Q: The NOFO states that eligible applicants must be operated "by a public agency or nonprofit organization, or a combination of such organizations" and provide direct services to crime victims. Our agency provides legal services to parents and caregivers going through DCFS investigations and administrative appeals. Some of our clients are domestic violence survivors. Would this be sufficient for being seen as "providing direct services to crime victims"?  
  
A: The intent of this solicitation is to provide crisis intervention, case management, counseling and therapy to specific victims. We did not intend to fund legal services with this solicitation.

### Geographic Questions

8. Q: Does your proposal need to cover an entire region, for example, Cook County, Collar Counties, etc., or can it target a specific area in one of those regions such as a town or group of towns?  
  
A: The application can target a specific area within a region.

### Program Narrative

9. Q: Staffing Plan – Letter D: Says to include plan to hold at least one training on trauma informed care. Does this mean we need to send our staff to a specific training or we need to develop a training? We have monthly education sessions and I am wondering if I can use this time to bring someone in on trauma informed care.

- A: We are not requiring a specific trauma informed care training.
10. Q: I'm using the Program Narrative form provided by ICJIA and following the outline. Is this the correct way to submit this NOFO? Or do I need to create a new document and answer everything in paragraph form?
- A: You are completing the program narrative correctly.
11. Q: The Community Characteristics section of the program narrative for VOCA Child Abuse application asks for U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts for 2015 and 2010-2014. The QuickFacts website is showing facts for 2016 and 2011-2015. Is it permissible to use these more recent numbers?
- A: Yes, this is permissible.

### Fiscal Questions

12. Q: What is a reasonable amount for a request as a first-time applicant to ICJIA? The range of possible funding is broad and we are unfamiliar with how competitive it will be.
- A: We have set aside \$5,000,000 for this solicitation. I can't really provide any guidance to you on a reasonable request amount.
13. Q: The NOFO states that the match must be at least 20% and can be in cash or in-kind, but that it must be "derived from sources other than federal funds." What about funds that might be federal funds but are provided through State agencies?
- A: Federal Funds cannot be used as Match, no matter who they are through.
14. Q: Once the grant is awarded, is the release of funds contingent upon a state budget? This helps us get a sense of the scope of what we could apply for if there is a need for one of our organizations to "front" the funding.
- A: These funds are not contingent on a state budget. We do need an Appropriation to distribute the Federal funds, which we have received in the past and expect to receive again. Upon grant execution, grantees can submit an initial cash request for 90 days of projected personnel costs and equipment.

### Application Requirement Questions

15. Q: The NOFO states that you must watch the required webinar. But the link takes you too many webinars. Should we watch all of them?

A: If you go to the link below and scroll to bottom, you will see required TA session and button for certification.

<https://grants.icjia.cloud/grants/20170602unmet-needs/>

16. Q: Do I need to submit a letter stating that I plan to submit an application?

A: No. Just complete the Notice of Intent Survey.