

## Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Formula Grant Program

**Program Title:** Crime Victim Fund

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### PROGRAM Information

<p><b>Detailed description of the program for which funding is requested:</b></p>	<p>The Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) is a formula grant program awarded by the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs' Office for Victims of Crime. ICJIA administers Illinois' VOCA award which is divided into two grants. The Authority administers the VOCA award for victims' assistance, and the Office of the Illinois Attorney General administers the state's VOCA award for victim compensation. VOCA victim assistance is intended to pay for direct services to victims of crime. Services under this grant program are defined as those that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Respond to the emotional and physical needs of crime victims.</li><li>2. Assist primary and secondary victims of crime to stabilize their lives after victimization.</li><li>3. Assist victims to understand and participate in the criminal justice system.</li><li>4. Provide victims of crime with a measure of safety and security such as boarding-up broken windows and replacing and repairing locks.</li></ol> <p>Each state grantee receives a base amount of \$500,000 for victim assistance. The remaining funds are distributed to each state, based upon the state's population in relation to all other states, as determined by current census data.</p> <p>Illinois is given latitude in allocating funds, but must give 10% to each of the following priority areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Sexual assault;</li><li>- Domestic violence;</li><li>- Child abuse; and</li><li>- Previously underserved populations (i.e. Federal crime victims, Survivors of homicide victims, Assault victims, Robbery victims, Victims of gang violence, Victims of hate or bias crimes, Victims of intoxicated drivers, Victims of bank robbery, Victims of economic exploitation or fraud, and Elder abuse victims)</li></ul>
<p><b>If this program already has federal authorization, please list</b></p>	<p>PL 111-117 § 502. The \$705,000,000 is the cap the Congress began imposing on the Crime Victims Fund in 2000. To increase funding the</p>

<p><b>the public law number and section in known.</b></p>	<p>cap would have to be raised. Note that the monies in the fund come from fines imposed on those convicted in federal courts and thus, the money is not funded through general taxation sources. The cap is the amount that Congress allows to be spent of the total monies collected even though traditionally it is less than the total collected. Raising the cap therefore does not further burden taxpayers.</p>										
<p><b>If this is an existing federal program, what statewide programs are supported by this funding? How do these programs benefit Illinois residents?</b></p>	<p>VOCA funds pay for several statewide programs. The Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault receive the largest portion of the Illinois award through ICJIA grants.. The coalitions then distribute these funds to their local member agencies. Another statewide program is statewide services to victims of drunk drivers. Finally, there funds pay for statewide training that is put on by the Illinois Attorney General.</p> <p>These services give victims accesses to services that address victimization. Victims will also receive knowledge and support in order to attend criminal proceedings and if necessary confront their accuser, counseling to help deal with the emotional trauma of victimization, legal and medical advocacy and related services..</p>										
<p><b>Do any of these state programs target or benefit a specific district in Illinois?</b></p>	<p>With the exception of the statewide grants mention above, grant funds are distributed to local government or local non-profit victim service agencies to assist victims of crime.</p>										
<p><b>Please provide a brief history of previous federal funding for this program including the fiscal year and amount.</b></p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Fiscal Year</th> <th>Award</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2010</td> <td>\$ 15,641,068</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2009</td> <td>\$ 13,853,856</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2009 ARRA</td> <td>\$ 1,285,350</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2008</td> <td>\$ 11,790,450</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Fiscal Year	Award	2010	\$ 15,641,068	2009	\$ 13,853,856	2009 ARRA	\$ 1,285,350	2008	\$ 11,790,450
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