



**ILLINOIS
CRIMINAL JUSTICE
INFORMATION AUTHORITY**

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**Community-Based Violence Intervention & Prevention
NOFO Updates and Responses to Applicant Questions**

Updated August 7, 2017

Items in red have been updated since the previous posting.

Updates

The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) website, NOFO PDF document, and technical assistance recordings have been updated to reflect the following:

1. **The NOFO website has been updated to reflect the following:**
Applications from agencies that do not have an approved SFY18 ICQ will not be reviewed.
2. **The cost of food is only allowable in certain, limited circumstances if it meets the following criteria:**
 1. The duration of the event (not including the time associated with eating) must last a minimum of two hours.
 2. The event must be part of the program-specific, client engagement activities
 3. Food and beverage (not including consumable supplies) costs cannot exceed:
 - i. \$5.50 per person if eating commences prior to 4pm
 - ii. \$17.00 per person if eating commences at 4pm or later
 4. Alcohol cannot be served at the same event where food is paid for with ICJIA funds, even if the alcohol is paid from another source of funds
 5. In the budget narrative, the applicant should describe how the per-person cost was calculated and why food is necessary for the event.
3. **The updated Notice of Funding Opportunity PDF (available here: <https://grants.icjia.cloud/static/grants/2017ViolenceInterventionAndPrevention/CBvipNOFO.pdf>) was inadvertently posted without the Appendices. The correct version of the NOFO (including appendices) has now been updated.**

General Questions

1. **Question: Does this grant include treatment for children younger than youth (not sure what age captures youth) to receive counseling, case management, education, and family support?**

Answer: The target population does not specify a minimum age. The focus is on those who are identified as being at heightened risk or those who engage in high risk behavior or violence.

2. **We follow a model close to Illinois Safe From the Start as this program was present in our county until 2014 when funding was cut.....are you familiar with that program and are we in line with your guidelines of what you fund if we provide similar services but for 0-11 instead of just 0-5?**

Answer: See Pages 6-8 and Page 14 of the Uniform Notice of Funding Opportunity for information about the services and activities allowable under this program.

- 3. Could you please confirm that our County State's Attorney's Office is not eligible to apply for this? In my personal opinion, we are not eligible since we are government and are not public nor a not-for-profit entity who provides these kinds of services.**

Answer: Your office is considered a public agency, and therefore is eligible to apply.

- 4. Our organization is in the process of applying for our 501(c)3 nonprofit status. We have a fiscal agent that is a well-established 501(c)3. Are we eligible to apply for this grant?**

Answer: An organization that is in the process of applying for their 501(c)3 can use a fiscal agent to apply on behalf of the direct service provider. If using a fiscal agent, the application will reflect that the fiscal agent is the Implementing Agency and the direct service provider is the Program Agency. Question 2c in the narrative must be answered by the fiscal agent. All other questions in the narrative must be answered by the program agency. If there is a fiscal agent fee, it must be included as a line item in the budget in the Contractual section. If your application is identified for funding, additional information may be required, including (but not limited to) an MOU that details the relationship between the fiscal agent and program agency along with each parties' obligations. Note: Both the Fiscal Agent and direct service provider must be GATA compliant.

- 5. Does this grant fund only coalition building or are other activities, such as youth development activities for high risk populations, permitted?**

Answer: Page 6-8 of the NOFO describes the required program design, while Page 14 describes examples of allowable costs.

- 6. (1) Can you please say more about the restriction on the program services for this grant not being allowed to be duplicative of services in other solicitations and provide examples? Many organizations apply for violence prevention funding and the proposed services tend to be the same. (2) The C8 question in the narrative only asks the writer to speak to the Victims of Violence grant. Is that the only other solicitation ICIJA is concerned about duplicate services? (3) Would it be helpful to have a different service area so as not to duplicate services?**

Answer: There are two ways to help avoid duplication. First, an applicant can provide additional services to their current clients. Second, an applicant can propose to provide the same services to additional clients (who are not currently receiving services). We do not require that you expand your service area – this is a decision that the applicant must make on their own. While duplication must be avoided (regardless of the source of funds), the narrative item (C8) that you are referring to is only applicable to the June 26, 2017 NOFO.

- 7. Can we only serve youth ages 11 – 16 or do we have to include young adults?**

Answer: We do not require that participants be a particular age. The target population identified in the Notice of Funding Opportunity is youth and young adults, including, but not limited to, those who are identified as being at heightened risk or those who engage in high risk behavior or violence.

- 8. After doing county-wide education through a coalition, would it be better if we saturated one community with high rates of violence (i.e. Waukegan – with the 10th highest violence rate in the state) and served a large number of youth, or spread our resources over 2-3 communities with high rates of violence (i.e. Waukegan, Zion, North Chicago,)**

Answer: We cannot provide guidance on this.

9. How many youth do you intend to serve through this RFP, state-wide? How many in the Collar counties?

Answer: ICJIA has not anticipated the number of individuals served under this solicitation.

10. Since the grants are dispersed geographically to maximize the number of youth served across the state, how many grants will be allocated to Chicago's Collar Counties, or to the Region where we are located (Lake County)?

Answer: Please refer to page 17-18 of the Notice of Funding Opportunity for details about how awards will be dispersed.

11. On the front page of your website for the NOFO, under "program design", under #2, it states we must implement one of the direct services categories and it seems to be describing the street intervention/interruption-active outreach and engagement direct service but has no title. Then under #3, it asks for one or more of the next 4 direct services and street intervention/interruption-active outreach and engagement has no description. According to this page, #2 is implying we have to have this one direct service but it's inconsistent with the video or the rest of the NOFO attachments. Is this just an error? Please clarify.

Answer: There was a formatting error on the website. The Notice of Funding Opportunity correctly notes that at least one of the following direct service categories must be implemented:

- Street Intervention/Interruption-Active Outreach and Engagement
- Counseling and Therapy
- Case Management
- Youth Development

12. Studies that highlight best practices related to violence prevention and at-risk youth programming, offer that effective interventions and strategies likely occur in school settings, as schools are most often identified as the hub of the community and a natural extension of the local neighborhood. Given the strong connection to school, home and community, data shows that at-risk youth benefit greatly from violence prevention counseling and intervention within a school-based model, embedded in their community environment. Will this ICJIA funding opportunity consider a school-based delivery model?

Answer: A school-based model would fall under the parameters of this Notice of Funding Opportunity.

13. What happens if our SAM.gov registration will expire between the date of application and grant start date?

Answer: The SAM.gov registration must be active at the time of application for you to apply for funds. If your application is approved for a grant, your SAM.gov registration will need to be active at that time.

Narrative Questions

1. In the program narrative, are you looking for rich statistical data or do we need to demonstrate why the programs are needed?

Answer: Strong program narratives will make the case for why services are needed in your community, and how your program will prevent/reduce violence. Please refer to Pages 16-17 of the Notice of Funding Opportunity for how the materials will be scored.

- 2. In the document Community-based Violence Intervention and Prevention Program Narrative, under tables listed as "direct services" , the second table labelled "street intervention..." doesn't state "if applicable" after it's title but the next 3 direct services state "if applicable" inferring that the Street Intervention services are a necessary service yet the video actually stressed the importance of the 4th direct service "youth development". Again seems to be inconsistent message, please clarify.**

Answer: While the table labeled “Street Intervention/Interruption-Active Outreach and Engagement” does not have the term “if applicable” after its title, the instructions above the table correctly state that *“If the applicant is proposing Street Intervention/Interruption-Active Outreach and Engagement, the following table must be completed.”* The Notice of Funding Opportunity correctly notes that at least one of the following direct service categories must be implemented:

- Street Intervention/Interruption-Active Outreach and Engagement
- Counseling and Therapy
- Case Management
- Youth Development

Fiscal Questions

- 1. Question: Is the award amount for this funding opportunity a "minimum" of \$100,000? We cannot apply for less?**

Answer: \$100,000 is the minimum amount. You cannot apply for less.

- 2. Question: We plan to host a couple of events – should we rent or purchase tables and chairs?**

Answer: You should do what’s most cost effective.