



**ILLINOIS
CRIMINAL JUSTICE
INFORMATION AUTHORITY**

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Death Penalty Abolition Fund

Notice of Funding Opportunity
Services to Families of Homicide Victims

RESPONSE TO APPLICANT QUESTIONS

Updated February 1, 2019

Please note, date discrepancies in the NOFO have been corrected effective January 25, 2019. Please refer to the updated NOFO and question 2, below, for the correct NOFO dates.

Question: 1

In regards to clients eligible for services under this NOFO, is there a time window for when the homicide had to have occurred? For example, we have a family where the mother was murdered 2 years ago and they need services now. Would a family like that be eligible for a program funded under this NOFO?

Response 1:

The NOFO does not limit services to survivors of recent homicides or otherwise limit the time elapsing between the homicide and service provision.

Question 2:

I was just hoping you could confirm that the website and webinars have the correct deadlines.

Response 2:

The correct dates are:

Task	Date
NOFO posted	Friday, January 11, 2019
Applicant webinars available	Friday, January 11, 2019
Notices of Intent requested by	Friday, January 25, 2019
NOFO question submission deadline	Wednesday, February 6, 2019
Applications due	11:59 p.m., Tuesday, February 12, 2019

Budget Committee review/approval of recommended designations	February 28 2019
Program start date	April 1, 2019

Question 3:

Just looking for eligibility clarification on this NOFO: it says “nonprofit entities” – does that include government agencies? I assumed no on first read, but wanted to confirm.

Response 3:

Nonprofit entities must be able to provide a letter from the IRS that is less than five years old and that confirms that the IRS recognizes the entity as a 501 c 3.

Question 4:

What is the maximum award amount?

Response 4:

The maximum award for the three-month period is \$250,000.

Question 5:

One of the videos provided for this NOFO mentions regulations or limitations on funds for relocating families. Is there someplace that we can view these regulations before applying?

Also, we serve a very large and diverse geographic area with many mental health providers? If we use funding from this grant to link families to counseling services, can they use the provider of their choice or will we need to have pre-established sub-contracts throughout the area that families will have to use?

Response 5:

Counseling services charged to the grant would need to be provided by the applicant agency staff or through contracts with provider agencies.

Unlike many of the funds we administer, the DPA funding does not specify hard and fast limits or restrictions on relocation funds. But since all grant expenses must be reasonable and necessary, your application will be scored on the reasonableness and necessity of the proposed budget. If your program is selected for funding, the Authority may negotiate reasonable limits on those costs.

Question 6:

Is the application deadline February 12, 2019 or February 8, 2019?

Response 6:

The application is due 11:59 p.m., February 12, 2019.

Question 7:

Would strategic planning costs be admissible under this grant?

Response 7:

DPA funds are not as restrictive as many funds and does not have a fund-specific list of unallowable costs. However, the NOFO states that, "Funding through this NOFO must create a comprehensive response to families of victims of homicide or murder." All proposed costs must be reasonable and necessary to achieve this end.

Question 8:

Is there a minimum number of families to be served (per agency) through this grant?

Response 8:

No. The NOFO does not specify a minimum number of families to be served. Each proposal must include a completed Goals/Objectives/Performance Measures table that sets benchmarks for performance. These benchmarks are evaluated for reasonableness as part of the merit-based review process.

Question 9:

What is the proposed/expected service area? Does this grant allow organizations to respond and provide services to families within their current catchment area? Or if chosen for this grant, is it the expectation that organizations respond to any homicide within Cook County?

Response 9:

Each proposal sets its own target area.

Question 10:

What is the anticipated number of organizations to be funded through this grant cycle?

Response 10:

This is the first DPA NOFO the Authority has issued, so we have no basis upon which we can project the number of awards that may result from this opportunity.

Question 11:

What are the expected qualifications of the staff person who responds to the crisis? Specifically, may a staff trained in crisis intervention, who is supervised by a licensed clinician, be able to travel to the site to respond to the crisis?

Response 11:

We have left it to the applicants to determine and describe the qualifications and training necessary for each funded staff member.

Question 12:

The initial grant period is from April 1, 2019 – June 30, 2019. For those agencies that are funded, would they know before June 30, 2019 whether or not they would be receiving additional funding for up to 33 months or would there be a gap between the initial grant period ending and the notification of additional funding.

Response 12:

For successful applicants, we are currently anticipating asking for a proposed 12-month budget as soon as their SFY19 agreement is executed. We would be unable to inform those agencies of anticipated SFY20 awards until we learn if there is an appropriation for SFY20 and how large an appropriation has been made by the General Assembly. That said, it is our intention to continue support for the selected programs for the full 36 months of service allowable under GATA unless there is a loss of appropriation or inadequate performance on the part of the grantee.