



ILLINOIS CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION AUTHORITY

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This document will be updated weekly

VOCA LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR CRIME VICTIMS

RESPONSES TO APPLICANT QUESTIONS

1. Q: What kind of organizations are eligible to apply for the new funding for legal services. Is it only open to legal services agencies? Or is it also open to victim service agencies hoping to add legal services to their programs?

A: We have outlined the eligibility requirements on pages 14-15 of the Notice of Funding Opportunity. In brief, eligible applicants include public agencies and nonprofit organizations, whose primary mission is the provision of legal assistance services. If a victim service agency doesn't currently focus on the provision of legal services, then it is not eligible. Eligible applicants without a history of providing victim services must enter into a collaborative working relationship with a victim service provider within the community to be served. This partnership can include funding to support a victim advocate position to work with the legal service agency to support the crime victims.

2. Q: Some of the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) programs in the state feel they might qualify under this category so I wanted to reach out to see if this is the correct category for CASA. If not, could you please let me know what category CASA will be under and when the RFP is expected to be released?

A: ICJIA did not intent to fund CASAs under this NOFO. Please keep an eye on our website for future announcements.