



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.

3. Q: Will ICJIA be allowing requests for waiver of the 20% match?
A: The Match Waiver is approved by the Office of Victims of Crime on a case by case basis.

4. Q: Will there be another application that covers other services to victims of violent crime such as our current crime victim compensation project?
A: Assistance with victim compensation paperwork is an allowable VOCA expense under this NOFO.

5. Q: We have a current VOCA grant that run through September 30th. How should we address this in our proposed budget?
A: If selected under this NOFO, any current VOCA grant will be canceled so that only one VOCA funded grant is running at a time. The NOFO Application should take into consideration all current programs and positions now funded with VOCA funds.

6. Q: The NOFA states that applicants may apply for up to \$800,000 of the six million dollars. It is not clear if an organization may have more than one application with the total exceeding \$800,000.

A: Organizations may submit multiple applications to address multiple areas of the state.