



NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS)
FY2020 STOP VAWA Formula Award
Request for Proposals – Questions #1 to 51 Received through
Wednesday, September 23, 2020

Proposals Due Friday, October 23, 2020

As stated on the cover of the Request for Proposals (RFP), and in the interest of fairness to all prospective applicants, DCJS is posting the following answers to substantive questions received by DCJS through Wednesday, September 23, 2020 at 5:00pm. Some language has been edited for clarity and to consolidate similar questions. **Questions 1 to 51 are posted here Friday, October 2, 2020. Additional and final questions and answers will be posted on or about Monday, October 6, 2020.**

Question #1: *Is this RFP replacing the current VAWA grants that we have been getting for years?*

Answer: All current STOP VAWA contracts with DCJS end on December 31, 2020. This solicitation is an open competitive request for proposals to establish a new portfolio of programs funded by the federal STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Formula Grants Program across New York State for the next 5 years. This RFP is not to be considered an extension or continuation of funding for current STOP VAWA program contracts. There is no guarantee that current STOP VAWA grantees will receive awards under this new funding opportunity, nor will they have any scoring advantage over other eligible applicants.

Question #2: *We have had the VAWA grants both as a single grant which was split into 2 grants – one for Domestic Violence and the other for SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner) services. Should we be applying for one grant or two?*

Answer: There is no restriction on the number of proposals that eligible entities may submit. Applicants that submit multiple proposals are reminded to plan for and consider the possibility that all, one, or none of the projects may be funded.

Question #3: *If we submit more than one proposal, can we request that one be prioritized over another that we have submitted?*

Answer: Requests by applicants to prioritize or rank multiple proposals cannot be honored.

Question #4: *The RFP states that Domestic Violence service providers must be licensed and/or approved by the NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS). How does an organization become licensed?*

Answer: Please refer to the NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) website for regulations, standards, and application forms regarding licensing and/or approvals for such service providers: <https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/dv/>.



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Question #5: *It appears I would be eligible to apply for the \$50,000. Is that \$50,000 for 5 years, or \$50,000 each year for 5 years?*

Answer: The funding caps provided in the RFP apply to annual award amounts. Successful local applicants will receive up to \$50,000 each year of the 5-year award. Per Section II. (C). in the RFP, “Funding after the first year of the contract is contingent upon the availability of state and federal budget appropriations, satisfactory program performance, and adherence to contractual terms and conditions. Proposals should include a budget that covers the initial 12-month period of the agreement.”

Question #6: *We are currently implementing the Intimate Partner Violence Intervention program which encompasses Law Enforcement- Police, Prosecution, Probation, Parole, victims’ services- Crime Victim’s Assistance Program and Community service providers and is guided by the National Network for Safe Communities. We are looking for funding to roll this out countywide and would like to hire a Project Manager to pull the team together. Is this funding something that could be used in that capacity?*

Answer: Yes. Hiring a project manager is an allowable expense and is further described under Section III. (C). Potential Initiatives and Activities of the RFP which lists “Coordinated Community Response Initiatives for Multi-Disciplinary Teams” as an eligible activity. However, applicants are reminded in Section II. (A). Funding of the RFP that, “All funding must support program-related expenses incurred during the contract period. Funding under this program must supplement, not supplant, non-grant funds that would otherwise be available for expenditure on the programs proposed.”

Question #7: *Will you (DCJS) be having a Questions and Answers virtual/conference call or webinar for this RFP?*

Answer: No. We do not anticipate holding any conference calls or webinars related to this RFP.

Question #8: *Our organization will be submitting its request under the RFP’s Culturally Specific Community-Based Organizations Set-Aside funding criteria. Would our application fall under the \$50,000 per year funding cap (\$250,000 over the grant’s 5-year award)?*

Answer: Yes. Eligibility as a Culturally Specific Community-Based Organization will be determined by DCJS based on criteria provided under the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013. Applicants can apply for an annual award under this set-aside, as described in the RFP in Section II. (A). for up to \$50,000 (annually). Please also see RFP Appendix: *Culturally Specific Community-Based Organizations* for additional information.



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Question #9: *According to this RFP, the grant requires a 25% match for Years 2-5, with Year 1 currently being waived. Please indicate what qualifies as in-kind match and also confirm that based on the \$50k cap, the in-kind match equivalent is \$12,500?*

Answer: There will be no match requirement imposed on applicants receiving STOP awards through this solicitation for the first year of the five-year contract term, and grantee match requirements for the remainder of the contract term will be determined at a later date.

By statute, a grant made under the STOP Formula Grant Program may not cover more than 75% of the total costs of the project(s) funded. The purpose of matching funds is to augment the amount of resources available to the project from grant funds and to foster the dedication of state, local, and community resources to the purposes of the project. Matching funds must be from non-federal sources. The costs of activities counted as match must be directly related to the project goals and objectives. In-kind match may include donations of expendable equipment; office supplies; workshop or education and training materials; workspace; or the monetary value of time contributed by professional and technical personnel and other skilled and unskilled labor, if the services provided are an integral and necessary part of a funded project. **The amount of match required is calculated as a percentage of the total project cost (the sum of grant funds + match funds), not the amount of grant funds requested.** A \$50,000 grant would require \$16,667 in match. A \$100,000 grant would require \$33,334 in match.

Should a grantee be interested in additional STOP award information, including additional information about what qualifies as in-kind match equivalent please see:

<https://www.justice.gov/ovw/page/file/1008816/download>

<https://www.justice.gov/ovw/page/file/29411/download>

Question #10: *Please confirm that the RFP is not requiring a budget for all 5 years and that the budget submitted in response to the RFP should be for a 12-month period covering (Year 1)?*

Answer: That is correct. Applicants are not required to submit a budget for all 5 years. In this RFP, applicants are required to submit a budget with total projected costs for a 12-month initial budget period which must be limited to eligible costs.



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Question #11: *Please clarify which positions and costs should/can be included in indirect costs? Should a portion of the Director of Finance position for this DCJS program be included in personal costs or rather in indirect costs? The Director of Finance performs all budgeting, record keeping and fiscal cost reporting directly for this DCJS program.*

Answer: The Operating Budget Detail and Justification is a scored application component worth 20 points; therefore, DCJS is unable to provide detailed guidance regarding individual programs. Applicants have the discretion to create proposed budgets that best meet the needs of the organization as long as they are consistent with the most recent version of the US Department of Justice Financial Guide <https://ojp.gov/financialguide/DOJ/index.htm> and the Code of Federal Regulations (2 CFR 200) Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards <http://www.ecfr.gov/>.

Question #12: *Is there a requirement that there be an MOU for the projects funded by this RFP? Under what circumstances should we include an MOU? Do we need to submit letters of support? In the application check list when it refers to an MOU or letter of support it says “if applicable” but we didn’t see anything about this anywhere else in the RFP so we are not sure when it would be applicable.*

Answer: A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is required when a grant recipient within a particular category is not the type of agency referred to in the category. Federal STOP VAWA guidelines require that states must require demonstration from the entity to be benefitted in the form of a memorandum of understanding signed by the chief executive of both the entity and the grant recipient stating that the entity supports the proposed project and agrees that it is to the entity’s benefit. Please read the following additional information:

Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE) Programs – Such applicants must submit a letter from the President or CEO of the hospital in which they are providing services stating that the hospital is aware and supportive of the program. In addition, they must also submit a letter from the District Attorney’s Office stating that they will work together in the potential prosecution of cases.

Legal Assistance – Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. § 12291(b)(12), any recipient or subrecipient providing legal assistance with funds awarded under this program must certify in writing that:

1. any person providing legal assistance with funds through this program (A) has demonstrated expertise in providing legal assistance to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual



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assault, or stalking in the targeted population; or (B) i. is partnered with an entity or person that has demonstrated expertise described in subparagraph (A); and ii. has completed, or will complete, training in connection with domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking and related legal issues, including training on evidence-based risk factors for domestic and dating violence homicide;

2. any training program conducted in satisfaction of the requirement of paragraph (1) has been or will be developed with input from and in collaboration with a tribal, state, territorial, or local domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking victim service provider or coalition, as well as appropriate tribal, state, territorial, and local law enforcement officials;

3. any person or organization providing legal assistance with funds through this program has informed and will continue to inform state, local, or tribal domestic violence, dating violence, or sexual assault programs and coalitions, as well as appropriate state and local law enforcement officials of their work; and

4. the grantee's organizational policies do not require mediation or counseling involving offenders and victims physically together, in cases where sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or child sexual abuse is an issue.

This certification must take the form of a letter, on letterhead, signed and dated by an authorized official of the organization delivering legal services.

Letters of support are not required and will not be evaluated during the scoring process.

Question #13: *Project/Site Address: Requires a Regional Council selection. What should we do if our services span multiple regions? Our agency's service area includes the Capital District, Central New York, Mid-Hudson, Mohawk Valley, New York City and Southern Tier.*

Answer: Applicants should select the Regional Council either where a) the primary activities for the project will be completed; or, b) where the main administrative office for their organization is located.

Question #14: *On page 4 of the RFP, under the heading, Funding Caps, it states "\$50,000 for all projects, regardless of jurisdiction". We are not a statewide organization, even though our service area covers 31 of NYS's 62 counties. Services vary by region (southern tier vs capital district area, for example). Can we submit separate applications by region which could each be*



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eligible for \$50K in funding? Or is the organization limited to one award of \$50,000 regardless of service area?

Answer: Separate and distinct proposals may be submitted for each regional office, and each would be eligible for up to \$50,000 in grant funding. There is no restriction on the number of proposals that eligible entities may submit. Applicants that submit multiple proposals are reminded to plan for and consider the possibility that all, one, or none of the projects may be funded. Requests by applicants to prioritize or rank multiple proposals cannot be honored.

Question #15: *Are agencies allowed to submit more than one application for different programs if they are in different functional or priority areas?*

Answer: Yes. There is no restriction on the number of proposals that eligible entities may submit. Applicants that submit multiple proposals are reminded to plan for and consider the possibility that all, one, or none of the projects may be funded. Requests by applicants to prioritize or rank multiple proposals cannot be honored.

Question #16: *Given the Governor's task force recommendation regarding research and programs directed toward people who choose to harm, is this funding able to support programming for those who choose to harm? And if so, which functional area would capture this?*

Answer: Grantees under the STOP program are prohibited from using OVW funds to conduct research, as defined in 28 C.F.R. § 46.102. Additionally, support of programming for “those who choose to harm” (a.k.a. Abusive Partner Intervention Programs, Batterer Intervention Programs, Offender Accountability Classes, etc.) is not an allowable activity under this solicitation.

Question #17: *Can one agency apply for more than one grant in different categories?*

Answer: Yes. There is no restriction on the number of proposals that eligible entities may submit. Applicants that submit multiple proposals are reminded to plan for and consider the possibility that all, one, or none of the projects may be funded. Requests by applicants to prioritize or rank multiple proposals cannot be honored.

Question #18: Our question pertains to the RFP Section III. (A). Program Purposes Areas: #11.



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In reference to “emergency services: - is this only referring to medical emergency services or can we interpret this as “legal” emergency services for victims?

Answer: The term “emergency services” can be broadly interpreted and can include legal services such as assistance with petitions for emergency orders of protection.

Question #19: *Section II. (C). states “Proposals should include a budget that covers the initial 12-month period of the agreement.” Does this mean we do not submit budgets for year 2 – 5?*

Answer: Correct. Applicants are required to submit a budget with total projected costs for a 12-month initial budget period which must be limited to eligible costs.

Question #20: *In reference to Standard Contract Provisions on page 20 of the RFP, if our budget will only include salaries, fringe benefits, and travel/training – how are we expected to meet Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (M/WBE) standards?*

Answer: Federally funded contracts are exempt from M/WBE standards.

Question #21: *In reference to the Grants Gateway Registration Instructions on page 25 of the RFP, Item #3 - Do you want us to include Organization Charts with or without names (i.e. just position titles)?*

Answer: Position titles are sufficient for the Organizational Chart. Names are required for senior staff resumes and members of the board of directors.

Question #22: *Pertaining to Appendix: Standard Work Plans and Reporting Information for Function Areas/a) Function Area – Training/Performance Measures- #5 - Do you have examples of how organizations can “report the effectiveness of training activities for training in anti-stalking”? The only idea we can think of is pre- and post- testing.*

Answer: The effectiveness of anti-stalking training could be measured by change in standard criminal justice measures, such as an increase in stalking arrests, enhanced stalking charges, or higher rates of stalking convictions.

Question #23: *What is the difference between the two Function Areas: i) Function Area- Victims Services/Legal and j) Function Area- Legal Services? For example, is “i” only Attorney*



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related services we provide and “j” both Attorney Services and Court/Legal Advocacy? We are planning a proposal regarding legal services that we provide victims and are not sure which category we should select. Is “i” for Victim Service agencies and “j” for strictly Legal Services agencies?

Answer: The Function Area headings are based on the federal Annual Progress Report for the STOP VAWA Formula Grant Program form. Applicants should select “Victim Services/Legal” if they plan to provide victim services. Applicants should select “Legal Services” if legal services are being provided to victims. Programs that offer both services should select both categories.

Question #24: *Is there a maximum number of project applications by the same applicant?*

Answer: No. There is no restriction on the number of proposals that eligible entities may submit. Applicants that submit multiple proposals are reminded to plan for and consider the possibility that all, one, or none of the projects may be funded.

Question #25: *If an organization is proposing a pilot that would start at the local level in Years 1 and 2, but eventually be rolled out across the state in Years 3, 4 and 5, could that be considered a statewide project (as opposed to a local one)?*

Answer: Such a project would be considered local.

Question #26: *Is it allowable to include in an application that would provide services to victims of crime 11 or younger?*

Answer: No. STOP funds cannot be used to provide services for victims under the age of 11.

Question #27: *As a multi-faceted Agency (providing Rape Crisis, Prevention, & Domestic Violence services), can we apply for more than one project under different initiatives or categories? If so, would each of these projects have individual limits of \$50k? Do we submit each of these projects in a separate proposal, or in one application and note priority of funding need?*

Answer: There is no restriction on the number of proposals that eligible entities may submit. Each proposal is limited to the funding cap provided in the RFP based on the initiative. A statewide initiative or program is capped at \$100,000 and a program serving local jurisdiction is



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limited to \$50,000. Applicants that submit multiple proposals are reminded to plan for and consider the possibility that all, one, or none of the projects may be funded.

Question #28: *As a Rape Crisis Center, a not-for-profit (NFP) and a SAFE program, can we apply for a project under each of these entity types? If so, how would we do this – as one proposal or separately as noted above? Would each project have its own \$50k limit?*

Answer: There is no restriction on the number of proposals that eligible entities may submit. An applicant wishing to submit separate and distinct proposals for programs may do so provided they are qualified to deliver the services detailed in each proposal. However, applicants that submit multiple proposals are reminded to plan for and consider the possibility that all, one, or none of the projects may be funded.

Question #29: *DCJS currently funds our SAFE program trainer at a higher than \$50K amount. Is the expectation that the Agency has to obtain additional funding to keep the program functional if the support is reduced?*

Answer: Applicants are allowed to submit proposals that fund entire programs or portions thereof. All current STOP VAWA contracts with DCJS end on December 31, 2020. This solicitation is an open competitive request for proposals to establish a new portfolio of programs funded by the federal STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Formula Grants Program across New York State for the next 5 years. This RFP is not to be considered an extension or continuation of funding for current STOP VAWA program contracts. Current or prior STOP VAWA funding status will have no bearing on scoring decisions for funds being made available through this open competitive FY2020 STOP VAWA Formula Award RFP process. There is no guarantee that current STOP VAWA grantees will receive awards under this new funding opportunity, nor will they have any scoring advantage over other eligible applicants.

Question #30: *Are we able to be a subcontractor under one proposal and submit our own? Would doing so impact acceptance of our own proposal?*

Answer: Subcontractor status of an eligible organization on one proposal does not impact the ability of that same organization to also submit an independent proposal.

Question #31: *Are there any limitations on the types of legal cases that can be handled for a domestic violence victim with these funds?*



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Answer: Yes. Please refer to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) About STOP Formula Grants on the U.S. Department of Justice website:

<https://www.justice.gov/ovw/page/file/1008816/download>

Question #32: *Are there eligibility guidelines associated with the delivery of legal services or other services?*

Answer: Yes. Please refer to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) About STOP Formula Grants on the U.S. Department of Justice website:

<https://www.justice.gov/ovw/page/file/1008816/download>

Question #33: *Are letters of support welcome or required as part of the application?*

Answer: Letters of support are not required and will not be considered during the application evaluation and scoring process.

Question #34: *What is the maximum number of applications allowed when one organization is submitting applications for a variety of service areas?*

Answer: There is no restriction on the number of proposals that eligible entities may submit. Applicants that submit multiple proposals are reminded to plan for and consider the possibility that all, one, or none of the projects may be funded.

Question #35: *We are a not-for-profit agency providing domestic violence/sexual assault services throughout our county. We also oversee/manage the SANE Program for our county. Our question is regarding the funding cap in which we can apply for. Would it be \$100,000 or \$50,000? Is \$100,000 a cap for only initiatives and programs that will cover the whole state?*

Answer: As stated under Section II (A). in the RFP, the maximum award for local programs is \$50,000. The funding caps provided in the RFP are annual award amounts. Successful local applicants will receive up to \$50,000 each year of the 5-year award. Per Section II. (C). Contract Term in the RFP, "Funding after the first year of the contract is contingent upon the availability of state and federal budget appropriations, satisfactory program performance, and adherence to contractual terms and conditions. Proposals should include a budget that covers the initial 12-month period of the agreement."



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Question #36: *Confirming that as a non-profit agency – our maximum grant request is \$50,000 annually?*

Answer: In order to maximize support of local programs, maximum annual award amounts (or “funding caps”) will be imposed by program type as follows, regardless of whether applicant is a not-for-profit agency or another eligible applicant:

- \$100,000 – Statewide Initiatives and Programs
- \$50,000 – All other projects, regardless of jurisdiction. Note: Applicants are encouraged to submit proposed budgets that reflect the minimum level of funding required to accomplish identified goals and objectives. DCJS reserves the right to adjust final award amounts and budgets of successful applicants as detailed in Section IV. *Evaluation and Selection of Proposals.*

Question #37: *We currently are funded under VAWA STOP with two (five-year grant contracts) – ending Dec. 31, 2020, a DV Family Court Advocate and DV Rural Court Advocate. Can one agency submit two different applications? (in order to sustain our two previous contracts?)*

Answer: There is no restriction on the number of proposals that eligible entities may submit. Applicants that submit multiple proposals are reminded to plan for and consider the possibility that all, one, or none of the projects may be funded.

Question #38: *Will there be another VAWA STOP RFP released this year?*

Answer: No. DCJS does not plan to issue any additional FY2020 STOP VAWA Formula Award solicitations during 2020. This solicitation is an open competitive request for proposals to establish a new portfolio of programs funded by the federal STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Formula Grants Program across New York State for the next 5 years.

Question #39: *Page 2 of the RFP states, "The goal for FFY 2020 STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Formula Grants Program is to support communities in their efforts to develop and strengthen effective law enforcement and prosecution strategies to combat violent crimes against women and to develop and strengthen victim services in cases involving violent crimes against women." Is DCJS looking for organizations that do BOTH goals (law enforcement strengthening and victim services) or can we just focus on one of them?*



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Answer: Programs are encouraged to submit proposals that address either aspect of the overall federal goal.

Question #40: *I believe my agency is eligible to submit an application under category 4. Is the anticipated budget amount \$50,000 for each year, or \$50,000 for the 5-year contract?*

Answer: The funding caps provided in the RFP are annual award amounts. Successful local applicants will receive up to \$50,000 each year of the 5-year award. Per Section II. (C). Contract Term in the RFP, "Funding after the first year of the contract is contingent upon the availability of state and federal budget appropriations, satisfactory program performance, and adherence to contractual terms and conditions. Proposals should include a budget that covers the initial 12-month period of the agreement."

Question #41: *Under Category 4 for not-for-profit service providers, must agencies fulfill both eligibility criterion: 1) assistance to victims and 2) holding offenders accountable?*

Answer: No. Eligible programs can propose to fulfill either criteria (assistance to victims and/or holding offenders accountable) or both.

Question #42: *Is it a maximum of \$50,000 per year for five years or is it \$50,000 for year 1 and TBD for years 02-05?*

Answer: The funding caps provided in the RFP apply to annual award amounts. Successful local applicants will receive up to \$50,000 each year of the 5-year award. Per Section II. C. Contract Term in the RFP, "Funding after the first year of the contract is contingent upon the availability of state and federal budget appropriations, satisfactory program performance, and adherence to contractual terms and conditions. Proposals should include a budget that covers the initial 12-month period of the agreement."

Question #43: *Do applicants need to offer to provide services all over the state in order to apply for the \$100,000 funds?*

Answer: Yes. The funding CAP for \$100,000 is only allowable for Applicants proposing a statewide initiative.



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Question #44: *Are lie detector tests used within Batterer's Intervention Programs eligible to be paid for with STOP funds?*

Answer: No. Lie detector tests are not an eligible cost. Additionally, support of programming for "those who choose to harm" (a.k.a. Abusive Partner Intervention Programs, Batterer Intervention Programs, Offender Accountability Classes, etc.) is not an allowable expense under this solicitation.

Question #45: *May funds be requested by a NYS Department of Health (DOH) approved Rape Crisis Program to support the development of a Rape Crisis program at another hospital within our network, which is not currently NYS DOH approved, but is working towards qualifying to be approved and already has DOH trained SAFE's in place? Specifically, the funds would be used to hire a social worker to provide counseling and follow up.*

Answer: Yes, this is an allowable cost.

Question #46: *May funding be used to support the salary of a physician who would serve the Medical Director of at least two hospital sites? The job description would include conduct SAFE exams train SAFE's, provide ongoing training and consultation to SAFE's and medical providers and provide clinical expertise as needed and participate in quality assurance and regulatory compliance activities.*

Answer: Yes, this is an allowable cost. Applicants are reminded in Section II. (A). of the RFP that, "All funding must support program-related expenses incurred during the contract period. Funding under this program must supplement, not supplant, non-grant funds that would otherwise be available for expenditure on the programs proposed."

Question #47: *May we use funds to provide follow-up counseling and prevention services both in the hospital and off-site in partnership with a community partner?*

Answer: Yes, this is an allowable cost.

Question #48: *As a NYS DOH approved Rape Crisis program, may we also use funds to work with Domestic Violence survivors although our program is not approved by the NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS)?*



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Answer: Yes, this is an allowable activity provided that the program meets all of the criteria for Category 4 applicants in Section II. (B) of the RFP.

Question #49: *This is my first state grant application. Do I complete a narrative, plus answer the questions and submit with a budget?*

Answer: The only requirement for the application is to complete all questions (including narrative questions) throughout the Grants Gateway application and submit a budget. The budget section is pre-formatted in the Grants Gateway.

Question #50: *I currently receive three different grants from DCJS. Can I assume that I can reapply for those three separate funding streams under three separate applications once again?*

Answer: There is no restriction on the number of proposals an eligible applicant can submit. All current STOP VAWA contracts with DCJS end on December 31, 2020. This solicitation is an open competitive request for proposals to establish a new portfolio of programs funded by the federal STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Formula Grants Program across New York State for the next 5 years. This RFP is not to be considered an extension or continuation of funding for current STOP VAWA program contracts. There is no guarantee that current STOP VAWA grantees will receive awards under this new funding opportunity, nor will they have any scoring advantage over other eligible applicants. Funding under this program must supplement, not supplant, non-grant funds that would otherwise be available for expenditure on the programs proposed.

Question #51: *If we are not a victim service agency, are we required to have an MOU with one in order to qualify for funding?*

Answer: A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is required when a grant recipient within a particular category is not the type of agency referred to in the category. Federal STOP VAWA guidelines require that states must require demonstration from the entity to be benefitted in the form of a memorandum of understanding signed by the chief executive of both the entity and the grant recipient stating that the entity supports the proposed project and agrees that it is to the entity's benefit. Please read the following additional information:

Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE) Programs – Such applicants must submit a letter from the President or CEO of the hospital in which they are providing services stating that the



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hospital is aware and supportive of the program. In addition, they must also submit a letter from the District Attorney's Office stating that they will work together in the potential prosecution of cases.

Legal Assistance – Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. § 12291(b)(12), any recipient or subrecipient providing legal assistance with funds awarded under this program must certify in writing that:

1. any person providing legal assistance with funds through this program (A) has demonstrated expertise in providing legal assistance to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking in the targeted population; or (B) i. is partnered with an entity or person that has demonstrated expertise described in subparagraph (A); and ii. has completed, or will complete, training in connection with domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking and related legal issues, including training on evidence-based risk factors for domestic and dating violence homicide;
2. any training program conducted in satisfaction of the requirement of paragraph (1) has been or will be developed with input from and in collaboration with a tribal, state, territorial, or local domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking victim service provider or coalition, as well as appropriate tribal, state, territorial, and local law enforcement officials;
3. any person or organization providing legal assistance with funds through this program has informed and will continue to inform state, local, or tribal domestic violence, dating violence, or sexual assault programs and coalitions, as well as appropriate state and local law enforcement officials of their work; and
4. the grantee's organizational policies do not require mediation or counseling involving offenders and victims physically together, in cases where sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or child sexual abuse is an issue.

This certification must take the form of a letter, on letterhead, signed and dated by an authorized official of the organization delivering legal services.

End of Questions 1 through 51.