

Office of the Attorney General
Request for Applications (RFA) for the
Sexual Assault Prevention and Crisis Services–Federal (SAPCS–Federal) Program

The Crime Victim Services Division (CVSD) of the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) is soliciting applications from local and statewide programs that wish to utilize SAPCS–Federal funds for projects that support the primary prevention of sexual assault or sexual violence.

Applicable Funding Source: The source of federal funds includes the Federal Department of Health and Human Services, Preventative Health and Health Services Block Grant, Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number 93.991 and Injury Prevention and Control Research and State and Community Based Programs, CFDA Number 93.136. The federal funds are used for grant contracts supporting the primary prevention of sexual assault or sexual violence. All funding is contingent upon the appropriation of funds by the United States Congress and the Texas Legislature. The OAG makes no commitment that an application, once submitted, or a grant, once funded, will receive subsequent funding.

Eligibility Requirements:

Eligible Applicants: Local units of government, excluding law enforcement agencies and prosecutor’s offices; non-profit agencies with 26.U.S.C. 501 (c)(3) status; and state agencies are eligible to apply for a SAPCS–Federal grant.

Local Programs: Eligible local programs must meet the local program eligibility requirements for a SAPCS-State grant which means the local program must offer the following minimum services for at least nine months prior to receiving an SAPCS-Federal grant contract: 24-hour crisis hotline; crisis intervention; public education; advocacy and accompaniment to hospitals, law enforcement offices, prosecutor offices, and courts for survivors and their family members; and crisis intervention volunteer training.

Statewide Program: A statewide program, to be eligible for special project funding, must show that it supports efforts to maintain or expand existing services offered by local sexual assault programs; improve services to survivors; or other activities consistent with Texas Government Code, Chapter 420.

A local or statewide program does not have to actually apply or receive a SAPCS-State grant to meet these eligibility requirements for an SAPCS-Federal grant.

Eligibility: The OAG will initially screen each application for eligibility. Applications will be deemed ineligible if the application is submitted by an ineligible applicant; the application is not filed in the manner and form required by the Application Kit; the application is filed after the deadline established in the Application Kit; or the application does not meet other requirements as stated in the RFA and the Application Kit.

How to Obtain Application Kit: The OAG will post the Application Kit on the OAG's official agency website at <http://www.oag.state.tx.us/victims/grants.shtml>. Updates and

other helpful reminders about the application process will also be posted at this location. Potential applicants are encouraged to refer to this site regularly.

Deadlines and Filing Instructions for the Grant Application:

Registration Deadline: On-line registration is required to apply for an SAPCS-Federal grant. The deadline to complete registration is 5:00 p.m. CST March 27, 2009. **If registration is not completed by the deadline, then an Application will not be accepted and is not eligible for funding.** To register go to:
<http://www.oag.state.tx.us/victims/grants.shtml>.

Application Deadline: The applicant must submit its application, including all required attachments, to the OAG and the OAG must receive the submitted application and all required attachments by 5:00 p.m. CST April 22, 2009 to be considered timely filed.

Filing Instructions: **To meet the deadline, the Application must be submitted by both hard copy and email.** An Application will be considered timely filed when the OAG receives the paper (hard copies) and the electronic (email) of the Application including any required attachments in the following ways by the required deadline:

1. Hard copies – Via a Next Day Air Overnight Delivery Service:

- The Applicant must use a Next Day Air Overnight Delivery Service that tracks its deliveries. Submission by Next Day Air Overnight Delivery Service ensures that your Application can be tracked.
- The Applicant must submit one (1) original and three (3) copies of the Application including any required attachments.
- The Application should be printed on 8.5 x 11 inch paper. Separate each Application with a binder clip. Do not staple or otherwise bind Applications.
- The Application must be sent to the following address:

CVS GRANTS APPLICATIONS – MC 005
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
300 W 15TH ST RM 102
AUSTIN, TX 78701-1649

- **The OAG cannot accept Applications submitted in other formats, including walk-in, hand delivery or same day courier service.**

2. Email copies:

- The Applicant must submit the Excel workbook by email.
- The Excel workbook must be sent to the following email address:
CVSGrantsApplications@oag.state.tx.us.
- An auto-reply message will be generated by the OAG for email received at this address. If the Applicant does not receive an auto-reply message, they are strongly encouraged to contact the OAG immediately at (512) 936-1278.

The OAG will **not** consider an Application if it is not filed by the due date, 5:00 pm CST

on April 22, 2009.

Minimum and Maximum Amounts of Funding Available: The minimum amount of funding all programs may apply for is \$20,000 per fiscal year. The maximum amounts of funding are as follows: new local and new statewide programs—\$25,000 per fiscal year; currently funded local programs—\$150,000 per fiscal year; and currently funded statewide programs—\$450,000 per fiscal year.

Regardless of the maximums stated above, a program may not apply, per fiscal year, for an amount higher than the SAPCS-Federal funds it received in fiscal year (FY) 2009 less any amounts awarded for “technology funds”. The amount of an award is determined solely by the OAG. The OAG may award grants at amounts above or below the established funding levels and is not obligated to fund a grant at the amount requested.

Start Date and Length of Grant Contract Period: The grant contract period (term) is up to one year from September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2010, subject to and contingent on funding and/or approval by the OAG. The OAG may, at its discretion, opt to extend contracts for an additional twelve months.

Opportunity to Apply for Future Funding

The OAG may decide to not issue a separate Application Kit for FY2011, therefore this is notice to all applicants that failure to apply and receive funding from this Application Kit may mean that the next available opportunity to apply for SAPCS-Federal funds would be for FY 2012-2013.

No Match Requirements: There are no match requirements for SAPCS–Federal projects.

Volunteer Requirements: All SAPCS–Federal projects must have a volunteer component. Specific requirements for the volunteer component will be stated in the Application Kit.

Award Criteria: The OAG will make funding decisions that support the efficient and effective use of public funds. Scoring components will include, but are not limited to, information provided by the applicant on the proposed project activities and budget.

SAPCS Purpose Area: The purpose of the SAPCS–Federal program is to fund strategies and activities that support the primary prevention of sexual assault or sexual violence and any other purposes consistent with Texas Government Code, Chapter 420.

Staffing: All SAPCS-Federal projects must:

(a) Include a minimum of 75% of an applicant’s budget in the personnel and fringe budget categories.

(b) Designate and request funding for a Primary Prevention Coordinator that is responsible for the coordination and implementation of primary prevention efforts. This position must, at a minimum, work 20 hours per week on primary prevention activities on the grant.

In addition, only those staff positions that are directly related to achieving the goals of this project will be funded (this includes staff that has direct involvement in the planning, implementation, or delivery of project activities and those who directly supervise such staff).

Preference: The OAG reserves the right to consider all other appropriations or funding an applicant currently receives when making funding decisions. The OAG may give priority to applicants that do not receive other sources of funding, including funding that originates from the Texas Compensation to Victims of Crime Fund. The OAG reserves the right to give priority to programs that provide services in certain geographic or programmatic areas.

Prohibitions on Use of Grant Funds: OAG grant funds may not be used to support or pay the costs of overtime, dues, or lobbying; any portion of the salary or any other compensation for an elected government official; the purchase of food and beverages except as allowed under Texas State Travel Guidelines; the purchase or lease of vehicles; the purchase of promotional items or recreational activities; costs of travel that are unrelated to the direct delivery of services that support the OAG funded program; the costs for consultants or vendors who participate directly in writing a grant application; or for any unallowable costs set forth in applicable state or federal law, rules, regulations, guidelines, policies, procedures or cost principles. Grant funds may not be used to purchase any other products or services the OAG identifies as inappropriate or unallowable within this RFA or the Application Kit. Additional prohibitions include, but are not limited to, using grant funds for: construction and/or renovation; development of major software applications; direct counseling, treatment, or advocacy services to victims or perpetrators of sexual violence; media or awareness campaigns that exclusively promote awareness of where to receive victim services; research; and out-of-state travel for local programs.

OAG Contact Person: If additional information is needed, contact Jennifer McShane at CVSGrantsApplications@oag.state.tx.us or (512) 936-1278.