



REQUEST FOR APPLICATION

The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), Victim Services (VS) Branch, is soliciting applications for the following program:

LAW ENFORCEMENT SPECIALIZED UNITS (LE) PROGRAM

Release Date: August 7, 2020

This Request for Application (RFA) provides detailed information and forms necessary to prepare an application for Cal OES grant funds. The terms and conditions of this RFA supersede previous RFAs and conflicting provisions stated in the [Subrecipient Handbook \(SRH\)](#).

PROGRAM SYNOPSIS

Program Description:

The purpose of the LE Program is to create or enhance specialized units to provide a coordinated response to victims of domestic violence and their children. The specialized units will accomplish this through investigations, immediate victim advocacy, training for first responders, and the development of effective protocols and practices that will continue after the grant cycle has ended.

Eligibility:

The only eligible Applicants are the Program Subrecipients funded in the prior fiscal year.

Grant Subaward Performance Period:

January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021

Submission Deadline:

Monday, November 2, 2020



3650 SCHRIEVER AVENUE, MATHER, CA 95655

(916) 845-8834 TELEPHONE

[CalOES Website](#)

LAW ENFORCEMENT SPECIALIZED UNITS (LE) PROGRAM

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LAW ENFORCEMENT SPECIALIZED UNITS (LE) PROGRAM

PART I – OVERVIEW

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 - D. ELIGIBILITY
 - E. GRANT SUBAWARD PERFORMANCE PERIOD
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A. PUBLIC RECORDS ACT NOTICE

Grant applications are subject to the California Public Records Act, Government Code Section 6250, *et seq.* Do not put any personally identifiable information or private information on this application. If you believe that any of the information you are putting on this application is exempt from the Public Records Act, please indicate what portions of the application and the basis for the exemption. Your statement that the information is not subject to the Public Records Act will not guarantee that the information will not be disclosed.

B. CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions concerning this RFA, the application process, or programmatic issues should be submitted to:

Anna Preston, Program Specialist
Anna.Preston@caloes.ca.gov – (916) 845-8834

C. SUBMISSION DEADLINE AND OPTIONS

Applications must be delivered to Cal OES by 5:00 pm on Monday, November 2, 2020. Submission options are:

- Emailed to: VSapplications@caloes.ca.gov
- Postmarked or hand-delivered to the address below:

Cal OES – Victim Services Branch
3650 Schriever Avenue
Mather, CA 95655
Attn: Law Enforcement Specialized Units (LE) Program
Law Enforcement and County Victim Services Unit

D. ELIGIBILITY

The only eligible Applicants are the LE Program Subrecipients funded in the prior fiscal year.

Applicants applying for programs supported with federal funds must be registered in the federal System for Award Management (SAM) and have an expiration date that is at least eight weeks after the Application due date. [Check SAM status.](#)

Applicants that are community-based organizations must be registered with the California Department of Justice's Registry of Charitable Trusts with a "current" or "pending" status. [Check nonprofit status.](#)

E. GRANT SUBAWARD PERFORMANCE PERIOD

The Grant Subaward performance period is January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021.

F. FUNDS

Approximately \$1,422,000 is available for the Program for the Grant Subaward performance period.

1. Source of Funds

Detailed information on all VS Branch federal fund sources can be found in the [VS Branch Federal Fund Information Guide](#). Applicants are **strongly encouraged** to review this document to familiarize themselves with the requirements for all fund sources that support this Program.

The Program is supported through the Services*Training*Officers*Prosecutors (STOP) Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program.

- Promotes the development and implementation of effective, victim-centered law enforcement, prosecution, and court strategies to address violent crimes against women and the development and enhancement of victim services in cases involving violent crimes against women.
- Requires a cash or in-kind match equal to 25 percent of the total project cost. Tribes and victim service providers are exempt. **To**

request a match waiver, Applicants must submit the STOP Match Waiver Request form (Attachment A) to the applicable Program Specialist, by email, by Friday, October 2, 2020. All sections of the form must be completed. Answers to questions 9 through 11 must be specific and unique to the Applicant and Program.

- Cal OES's four-digit code for this federal fund is STOP. This code will be in the drop-down on the Grant Subaward Face Sheet (Cal OES 2-101).
- The Federal Award Number is unknown at the time of the release of this RFA. Contact your Program Specialist prior to submission of your application if you need this information.

2. Funding Amount

Applicants may apply for up to \$203,143 for the 12-month Grant Subaward performance period. Please note this will be the final Grant Subaward performance period for this Program. Within the next few months, the VS Branch will release a Request for Proposal (RFP) for FY 2021-22. Subrecipients will be competitively selected for the new Grant Subawards which will consist of three, 12-month Grant Subaward performance periods, with the first beginning October 1, 2021.

Please see the chart below for the breakdown of the fund source match for this Grant Subaward performance period.

2020 VAWA	MATCH	TOTAL PROJECT COST
\$203,143	\$67,714	\$270,857

G. PROGRAM INFORMATION

1. Program Description

The purpose of the Program is to create or enhance specialized units to provide a coordinated response to victims of domestic violence and their children. The specialized units will accomplish this through investigations, immediate victim advocacy, training for first responders, and the development of effective protocols and practices that will continue after the grant cycle has ended.

2. Program Components

a. Victim Advocacy

The Subrecipient must contract with a local Cal OES-funded Domestic Violence Assistance (DV) Program Subrecipient for at least one full-time equivalent (FTE) Domestic Violence Counselor, pursuant to Evidence Code §1037.1(a)(1).

The Domestic Violence Counselor must:

- 1) Provide immediate in-person response to requests for victim advocacy services by the Subrecipient on a 24-hour basis.
- 2) Provide consultation, resource materials, and outreach materials to the Subrecipient for first responders and other relevant department personnel.
- 3) Assist with the development and/or revision of officer and advocate protocols for responding to victims of domestic violence and their children.
- 4) Assist with training of first responders, and other relevant department personnel, on best practices in responding to victims of domestic violence and their children.

b. Investigation and Coordination

The Subrecipient must fund, or commit to the specialized unit, at least one full-time investigator for a minimum of one year. Investigators assigned to the specialized unit must possess, at a minimum, an intermediate Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training certificate and have received specialized training beyond the academy level, related to the investigation of domestic violence crimes, in accordance with Penal Code Sections §13516-13519 *et al.*

This position will act in both an investigative and coordinating capacity. The investigator must:

- 1) Evaluate arrest and preliminary investigation reports and provide supplemental reports for cases requiring further investigation within 48 hours of the arrest.

- 2) Gather and document evidence including: witness statements, the identities of all children in the home, previous incidents of domestic violence and violent crimes, and civil restraining order information from the California Law Enforcement Telecommunication System.
- 3) Provide or facilitate training for first responders on best practices in responding to victims of domestic violence and their children.
- 4) Assist with the development of protocols for ensuring consistent and appropriate response by first responders to violations of protective orders to ensure victim safety.
- 5) Oversee the completion of domestic violence case follow-up requests or evidence requests from the District Attorney's Office.
- 6) Provide consultation and resources on effective domestic violence intervention and response techniques for first responders, and other relevant personnel employed by the Subrecipient.
- 7) Work in close cooperation with victim advocacy personnel.

c. Training

The Subrecipient should make every effort to provide on-line, or in-person, training to as many first responders as possible. Training on effective domestic violence intervention and response techniques must include, but is not limited to:

- 1) The dynamics of power and control in the cycle of violence for victims of domestic violence and their children.
- 2) Understanding the concept of the dominant aggressor.
- 3) Crime scene investigation
 - Conducting thorough victim interviews with detailed accounts of the crime

- Treating the physical space as a crime scene and diligently documenting, collecting, and booking physical evidence that corroborates the victim's accounts
- Photographing victim injuries
- Noting detail on reports to document when children are present and/or are witnesses to the crime
- Taping victim interviews/statements whenever possible
- Writing detail-specific and comprehensive crime reports that can be effectively used in prosecution, court hearings, civil restraining order cases, child protection and custody hearings and conservatorships
- Completing medical release and confidentiality information
- Addressing first responder safety

d. Protocols for Sustainable Response

The Subrecipient must develop and/or enhance protocols with the contracted Cal OES-funded DV Program Subrecipient for collaborative response to victims of domestic violence and their children. At a minimum, these protocols must include:

- 1) The responsibilities of first responders, addressing how and when to contact the Domestic Violence Counselor.
- 2) The roles and responsibilities of the Domestic Violence Counselor in addressing the needs of victims as well as the needs and concerns of first responders.
- 3) A clearly enforceable method of interagency accountability to address concerns and conflicts raised by either the law enforcement agency or the domestic violence service provider.
- 4) A long-term plan for sustaining an effective domestic violence response unit after the grant cycle has expired.

e. Co-location

The Subrecipient must provide a reasonable workspace for the Domestic Violence Counselor contracted through this Program.

f. Community Collaboration

Subrecipients must have established, documented working relationships with community organizations relevant to the goals and objectives of the Program. These relationships must be demonstrated through Operational Agreements (OAs). An OA is a formal agreement, without the exchange of money, between an implementing agency and one or more participating agencies. A Second Tier Subaward is a formal agreement that includes the exchange of money between an implementing agency and a participating agency to further the goals of the project. At a minimum, the Subrecipient must have an OA, within their jurisdiction, with a Cal OES-funded:

- 1) DV Program
- 2) Rape Crisis Program
- 3) Victim Witness Assistance Program

g. Assistance with California Victim Compensation Board Claims

Subrecipients are strongly encouraged to assist victims with applying for compensation benefits through the California Victim Compensation Board. Activities may include:

- Advising of the availability of such benefits
- Assisting with application forms and understanding procedures
- Obtaining necessary documentation to support the claim
- Monitoring claim status

Subrecipients are also strongly encouraged to budget for tablets or mobile communication devices and cellular service to swiftly facilitate the on-line application process in the office or in the field.

3. Reporting Requirements

Progress Reports serve as a record for the implementation of the project. Statistics for Progress Reports must be collected on a quarterly basis, even when reporting occurs less frequently. The following reports are required:

a. Cal OES Progress Reports

There are two Cal OES Progress Reports required for the Program. See the chart for report periods and due dates.

Report	Report Period	Due Date
1 st Report	January 1, 2021 – June 30, 2021	July 30, 2021
Final Report	July 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021	January 31, 2022

b. Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) Report

Subrecipients receiving STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program funds must complete the Annual Progress Report for the STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program. This report covers the calendar year period of January 1 through December 31. This report is due to Cal OES no later than January 31, 2022.

LAW ENFORCEMENT SPECIALIZED UNITS (LE) PROGRAM

PART II – RFA INSTRUCTIONS

- A. SUBRECIPIENT HANDBOOK
 - B. FORMS
 - C. APPLICATION COMPONENTS
 - D. BUDGET POLICIES
 - E. ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS
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A. SUBRECIPIENT HANDBOOK

Applicants are strongly encouraged to review the [Subrecipient Handbook \(SRH\)](#). The SRH outlines the terms and conditions that apply to the Cal OES, VS Branch grants and provides helpful information for developing an application, including a Glossary of Terms.

B. FORMS

The Applicant must use the forms provided on our website. The forms must be printed on plain white 8½" x 11" paper and single sided. **Applicants may not alter the formatting of any forms, including the Project and Budget Narratives. No tables, charts, or changes to the margins are allowed.**

C. APPLICATION COMPONENTS

Applicants must complete and submit all required components. Specific information for each component is included next. The Checklist in Part III is included to ensure Applicants submit all required components.

1. Grant Subaward Face Sheet (Cal OES 2-101)

The Grant Subaward Face Sheet is the title page of the Grant Subaward that is signed by the Subrecipient and the Cal OES Director (or designee). Instructions are included on the form.

2. Project Contact Information (Cal OES 2-102)

The Project Contact Information form provides Cal OES with all relevant Subrecipient personnel. Information for each individual should be direct contact information. Instructions are included on the form.

3. Signature Authorization (Cal OES 2-103)

The Signature Authorization form provides Cal OES with signatures of authorized signers and who they authorize to sign on their behalf for all grant-related matters. Instructions are included on the form.

4. Certification of Assurance of Compliance (Cal OES 2-104g)

Cal OES is required by law to obtain written certifications of compliance. The Certification of Assurance of Compliance form is a binding affirmation that the Subrecipient will comply with the following regulations and restrictions:

- State and federal civil rights laws
- Drug Free Workplace
- California Environmental Quality Act
- Federal grant fund requirements
- Lobbying restrictions
- Debarment and Suspension requirements
- Proof of Authority documentation from the city council/governing board

Subrecipients may be asked to sign and submit an updated Certification of Assurance of Compliance once in Grant Subaward agreement. Each year, Cal OES updates each Certificate of Assurance of Compliance to ensure that any new conditions placed upon the federal award are passed down to Subrecipients. Subrecipients will be notified if this change is needed.

5. Budget Pages (Cal OES 2-106a)

The Budget demonstrates how the Applicant will implement the proposed plan with the funds available through this Program. The budget is the basis for management, fiscal review, and audit. **Budgets are subject to Cal OES modifications and approval.** Failure of the Applicant to include required budget items does not eliminate responsibility to comply with those requirements during the implementation of the project.

The Budget Pages automatically calculate the subtotal at the end of each budget category and provide the total of the three

spreadsheets at the bottom of the Equipment page. Applicants may add additional columns to the Budget Pages when necessary.

Cal OES requires the Applicant to develop a line-item budget that includes a **calculation and justification in the left column for all expenses.**

The Budget Pages should:

- Cover the entire Grant Subaward performance period
- Include costs related to the objectives and activities of the project
- Strictly adhere to required and prohibited expenses
- Include expenses in the correct category (i.e., Personal Services, Operating Expenses, and Equipment – see below)

Include **only** those items covered by grant funds, including match funds, when applicable. Applicants may supplement grant funds with funds from other sources. However, since approved line items are subject to audit, Applicants should not include in the Project Budget matching funds (if applicable) in excess of the required match.

a. Personal Services – Salaries/Employee Benefits

1) Salaries

Personal services include services performed by project staff **directly employed by the Applicant** (not a contract or participating agency) and must be identified by position, cost and time spent on allowable activities for the Program (e.g., Clerical Staff @ \$20/hour x 980 hours; or Victim Advocate @ \$3,500/month x 12 months x .50 FTE). They may be salaried or hourly, full-time or part-time positions. Sick leave, vacation, holidays, overtime, and shift differentials must also be budgeted as a part of salaries. If the Applicant's personnel have accrued sick leave or vacation time prior to the approval of grant funding, they may not take time off using project funds.

2) Benefits

Employee benefits must be identified by type and percentage of salaries. The Applicant may use fixed percentages of salaries to calculate benefits. Budgeted

benefits cannot exceed those already established by the Applicant.

Employer contributions or expenses for social security, employee life and health insurance plans, unemployment insurance, and/or pension plans are allowable budget items. Benefits, such as uniforms or California Bar Association dues are allowable budget items if negotiated as a part of an employee benefit package.

A line item is required for each different position/classification, but not for each individual employee. If several people will be employed full-time or part-time in the same position/classification, provide the number of full-time equivalents (e.g., three half-time clerical personnel should be itemized as 1.5 clerical positions).

b. Operating Expenses

Operating expenses are defined as necessary expenditures other than personal salaries, benefits, and equipment. The expenses must be grant-related (i.e., to further the Program objectives as defined in the Grant Subaward) and be encumbered during the Grant Subaward performance period.

Examples of an Operating Expense line item include, but are not limited to:

- Consultant services such as subcontractors
- Indirect cost allowance
- Salaries of participating staff who are not employed by the Applicant
- Travel
- Office supplies
- Training materials
- Equipment maintenance
- Software equipment rental/lease
- Telephone, postage
- Printing
- Facility rental
- Vehicle maintenance
- Furniture and office equipment with a cost of less than \$5,000 (excluding tax) and/or with a useful life of less than one year

Salaries for staff not directly employed by the Applicant must be shown as consultant and/or participating staff costs and must be supported with a Second Tier Subaward, which must be kept on file and made available for review during audits or at the request of Cal OES (SRH 3710 and 4300).

Attendance of the VS Branch's regional grants management training is strongly encouraged. Applicants planning to attend must include sufficient per diem and travel allocations for up to two persons.

c. Equipment

Equipment is defined as nonexpendable tangible personal property having a useful life of more than one year and a cost of \$5,000 or more per unit (excluding tax).

A line item is required for different types of equipment, but not for each specific piece of equipment (e.g., three laser jet printers must be one-line item, not three).

6. Budget Narrative (Cal OES 2-107)

The Budget Narrative should describe the following:

- a. How the Applicant's proposed budget supports the objectives and activities.
- b. How funds are allocated to minimize administrative costs and support direct services.
- c. How shared costs are allocated.
- d. How program-funded staff duties and time commitments support the proposed objectives and activities.
- e. The necessity for subcontracts and unusual expenditures.
- f. Need for mid-year salary range adjustments.

7. Project Narrative (Cal OES 2-108)

The Project Narrative is the main body of information describing the problem to be addressed, the plan to address the identified problem through appropriate and achievable objectives and activities, and the ability of the Applicant to implement the proposed plan.

a. Problem Statement

A problem statement is not required.

b. Plan

In narrative form, address the following:

- 1) Utilization of a Domestic Violence Counselor from a Cal OES-funded DV service provider.
- 2) Providing domestic violence-specific training.
- 3) Development and implementation of protocols for ensuring consistent and appropriate response by first responders to violations of protective orders for victim safety.
- 4) Development and/or enhancement of protocols for responding to victims of domestic violence, and their children, that will remain sustainable after the grant cycle has ended.

8. Subrecipient Grants Management Assessment

Per title 2 CFR § 200.331, Cal OES is required to evaluate the risk of noncompliance with federal statutes, regulations, and grant terms and conditions posed by each Subrecipient of pass-through funding. The assessment is made in order to determine and provide an appropriate level of technical assistance, training, and grant oversight to Subrecipients. Instructions are included on the form.

9. Project Service Area Information (Cal OES 2-154)

The Project Service Area Information form identifies the counties, cities, and congressional districts served by the project. Instructions are included on the form.

10. Organizational Chart

The Organizational Chart should clearly depict the structure of the Applicant organization and the specific unit within the organization responsible for the implementation of the project. This chart should also depict supporting units within the organization (e.g., the Accounting Unit) and the lines of authority within the organization. Job titles on the Organizational Chart must match those in the Budget Pages and Budget Narrative.

11. Additional Forms/Documents

The following are required only if applicable:

- Match Waiver Request

This form is required only if the Applicant is requesting to waive a portion, or all, of the required Match. See Part I, F., 1 for additional information.

- Operational Agreements Summary Form

OAs are required per Part I, Subpart G of this RFA.

- Non-Competitive Bid Request Checklist (Cal OES 2-156)

This form is required only if the Applicant proposes a line item in their Budget that meets the criteria for a Non-Competitive Bid Request per *SRH 3511*. Instructions are included on the form.

- Contractor/Consultant Rate Exemption Request (Cal OES 2-164)

This form is required only if the Applicant is requesting an exemption to the maximum rate for an independent contractor/consultant of \$650 per eight-hour day or \$81.25 per hour per *SRH 3710.1*. Instructions are included on the form.

- Out-of-State Travel Request (Cal OES 2-158)

This form is required only if the Applicant proposes a line item for out-of-state travel per *SRH 2236.1.1*. Instructions are included on the form.

- Excess Lodging Rate Request/Approval Form (Cal OES 2-165)

This form is required only if an Applicant is requesting approval for excess lodging costs per *SRH 2236.2*.

D. BUDGET POLICIES

The following sections of the [SRH](#) may be helpful in developing the Budget Pages and Budget Narrative.

- Additional Rental Space (*SRH 2232.1*)
- Audit Costs (*SRH 8150*)
- Automobiles (*SRH 2331*)
- Cash Match (*SRH 6511*)
- Contracting and/or Procurement (*SRH 3400*)
- Equipment (*SRH 2300*)
- Expert Witness Fees (*SRH 3710.2*)
- Independent Contractor/Consultant (*SRH 3710*)
- Indirect Cost Rate Proposal (ICRP) (*SRH 2180 & SRH 2188*)
- In-Kind Match (*SRH 6512*)
- Internet Access (*SRH 2340*)
- Match Requirements (*SRH 6500*)
- Office Space Rental (*SRH 2232*)
- Prohibited Expense Items (*SRH 2240*)
- Project Income (*SRH 6610*)
- Rented or Leased Equipment (*SRH 2233*)
- State Funds Matching State or Federal Funds (*SRH 6522*)
- Supplanting Prohibited (*SRH 1330*)
- Travel and Per Diem (*SRH 2236 and 2236.2*)

E. ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Subrecipients must administer their grants in accordance with all [SRH](#) requirements. Failure to comply with these requirements can result in the withholding or termination of the Grant Subaward. The following section may be helpful for developing an application and for planning purposes:

- Audit Requirements (SRH 8100)
- Communications (SRH 11500)
- Copyrights, Rights in Data, and Patents (SRH 5300-5400)
- Certificate of Insurance (SRH 2160)
- Monitoring (SRH 10400)
- Programmatic Technical Assistance and Site Visit Performance Assessment (SRH 10200-10300)
- Report of Expenditures and Request for Funds (SRH 6300)
- Source Documentation (SRH 10111)

LAW ENFORCEMENT SPECIALIZED UNITS (LE) PROGRAM

PART III – CHECKLIST

This checklist is provided to ensure that a complete application is submitted to Cal OES.

- GRANT SUBAWARD FACE SHEET ([Cal OES 2-101](#)) – Signed by the official authorized to enter into the Grant Subaward.
- PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION ([Cal OES 2-102](#))
- SIGNATURE AUTHORIZATION ([Cal OES 2-103](#))
- CERTIFICATION OF ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE Services*Training*Officers*Prosecutors (STOP) ([CAL OES 2-104g](#)) – Signed by the official who signed the Grant Subaward Face Sheet and by the official delegating that authority.
- BUDGET PAGES (EXCEL SPREADSHEET FORMAT) ([Cal OES 2-106a](#)) Budget Pages Multiple Fund
- BUDGET NARRATIVE ([Cal OES 2-107](#))
- PROJECT NARRATIVE ([Cal OES 2-108](#))
 - PLAN
- [SUBRECIPIENT GRANTS MANAGEMENT ASSESSMENT](#)
- PROJECT SERVICE AREA INFORMATION ([Cal OES 2-154](#))
- ORGANIZATIONAL CHART
- ADDITIONAL FORMS, IF APPLICABLE
 - MATCH WAIVER REQUEST
 - OPERATIONAL AGREEMENTS SUMMARY FORM ([Cal OES 2-160](#))
 - NON-COMPETITIVE BID REQUEST CHECKLIST ([Cal OES 2-156](#))
 - CONTRACTOR/CONSULTANT RATE EXEMPTION REQUEST ([Cal OES 2-164](#))
 - OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL REQUEST ([Cal OES 2-158](#))
 - EXCESS LODGING RATE REQUEST/APPROVAL ([Cal OES 2-165](#))