



VICTIM SERVICES BRANCH FEDERAL FUND INFORMATION GUIDE

This document contains detailed information for common Victim Services Branch (VSB) federal fund sources. Applicants are strongly encouraged to review this document to familiarize themselves with the requirements for all fund sources that support the program they apply for.

Federal fund information for funds not listed in this guide can be found in a program's Request for Proposal/Request for Application document.

I. Victims of Crime Act Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program

The Program is authorized by the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (34 U.S.C. § 20103 (a) and (b)).

A. Purpose

The Victims of Crime Act authorizes federal financial assistance to states through the Program for the purpose of supporting eligible crime victim assistance programs that: 1) respond to the emotional and physical needs of victims of crime; 2) help primary and secondary victims of crime to stabilize their lives after a victimization; 3) help victims of crime understand and participate in the criminal justice system; and 4) provide victims of crime with a measure of safety and security. Crime victim is defined as any person who has suffered physical, sexual, financial, or emotional harm as a result of the commission of a crime.

B. Match

The Program requires a cash and/or in-kind match equal to 20 percent of the total project cost. Match is calculated using the total project cost method.

C. Restrictions/Guidelines

- Have a record of effective direct service to victims of crime.
- Utilize volunteers unless there is a compelling reason to waive this requirement.

- Not deny services to victims based on immigration status.
- Not charge victims for services provided by programs supported with Program funds, unless waived by Cal OES.

D. Codes

- The Assistance Listing Number for the Program is 16.575.
- The Cal OES four-character code for this Program is VOCA.

II. Services*Training*Officers* Prosecutors Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program

The Program was authorized in 1994 through the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). VAWA, Public Law 103-322 was reauthorized in 2000, 2005, 2013, and most recently in 2022. The Program is administered by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice.

A. Purpose

The Program promotes the development and the 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. States and communities are encouraged to restructure and strengthen the criminal justice system response to domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking, drawing upon the experience of all participants in the system.

B. Match

The Program requires a cash or in-kind match equal 25 percent of the total project cost. Match is calculated using the total project cost method. Tribes and victim service providers are exempt from this requirement and cannot be required to provide matching funds.

C. Restrictions/Guidelines

- Funds may not be used to conduct research, defined in [28 C.F.R. §46.102](#) as a systematic investigation designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge.

- Funds may not be used for activities that jeopardize victim safety, deter or prevent physical or emotional healing for victims, or allow offenders to escape responsibility for their actions.
- Funds may not be used to purchase of vehicles.

D. Codes

- The Assistance Listing Number for the Program is 16.588.
- The Cal OES four-character code for this Program is STOP.

III. The Family Violence Prevention and Services/Domestic Violence Shelter and Supportive Services/Awards to States

The Program is authorized by 42 U.S.C. § 10401, Family Violence Prevention and Services Act.

A. Purpose

The Program is administered through the Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Violence Prevention and Services, is designed to assist states in their efforts to support the establishment, maintenance, and expansion of programs and project to: 1) prevent incidents of family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence; 2) provide immediate shelter, supportive services, and access to community-based programs for victims of family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence, and their dependents; and 3) provide specialized services for children exposed to family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence including victims who are members of underserved populations ([45 CFR § 1370.10\(a\)](#)).

B. Match

The awarded entity will make available (directly or through donations from public or private entities) non-federal contributions in an amount that is not less than \$1 for every \$5 of federal funds provided under the grant. The non-federal contributions required may be in cash or in kind. A tribe as defined in [42 U.S.C. 10402\(5\)](#), or tribal consortium comprised of tribes, is exempt from the match requirement under the Program. Any entity other than a state or Indian tribe that receives Program funding as a Subrecipient to provide the services specified in [42 U.S.C. 10408\(b\)\(1\)\(A\) – \(H\)](#) (including training and technical assistance), must

provide no less than a 20 percent match. State domestic violence coalitions, tribal coalitions, and tribal organizations (as defined by [25 U.S.C. 5304](#)) are not exempt and must provide match.

C. Restrictions/Guidelines

- Funds may not be used to pay the salary or any percentage of salary, to an individual at a rate in excess of Executive Level II. The salary limitation reflects an individual's base salary exclusive of fringe benefits, indirect costs and any income that an individual may be permitted to earn outside of the duties of the Subrecipient organization.
- No income eligibility standard will be imposed on individuals with respect to eligibility for assistance or services supported with funds appropriated to carry out the Program ([42 U.S.C. 10406\(c\)\(3\)](#)).
- Funds may not be used as direct payment to any victim of family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence, or to any dependent of such victim ([42 U.S.C. 10408\(d\)\(1\)](#)).
- The receipt of supportive services under the Program will be voluntary. No condition will be applied for the receipt of emergency shelter as described in [42 U.S.C. 10408\(d\)\(2\)](#) and [45 CFR § 1370.10\(b\)\(10\)](#).
- Programs cannot disclose any personally identifying information (PII) collected in connection with services, reveal PII without informed, written, reasonably time-limited consent; or require a victim to provide consent as a condition of eligibility for services ([45 CFR §§ 1370.4\(a\) \(1 – 3\)](#)).

D. Codes

- The Assistance Listing Number for the Program is 93.671.
- The Cal OES four-character code for this Program is FVPS.

IV. Children's Justice Act Grants to States

The Program is authorized by Section 107(a-f) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106c et seq.) as amended by Public Law

(P.L.) 111-320 enacted December 20, 2010; and the Victims of Crime Act of 1984, as amended (42 U.S.C. 10603 et seq.).

A. Purpose

The Children's Justice Act Grants to States funds support the on-going activities of the Children's Justice Act Task Force in monitoring implementation of its recommendations and continuing interagency collaborations in carrying out the intent of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act. Funds are to be primarily focused on the front-end, intake, assessment, investigative, and prosecutorial phases of child welfare.

B. Match

The Program does not require a match.

C. Restrictions/Guidelines

Grants funds are to be used to implement Children's Justice Act Task Force recommendations in the following three categories:

- Investigative, administrative, and judicial handling of cases of child abuse and neglect, including child sexual abuse and exploitation, as well as cases involving a potential combination of jurisdictions, such as intrastate, Federal-State, and State-Tribal, in a manner which reduces the additional trauma to the child victim and the victim's family and which also ensures procedural fairness of the accused.
- Experimental, model, and demonstration programs for testing innovative approaches and techniques which may improve the prompt and successful resolution of civil and criminal court proceedings or enhance the effectiveness of judicial and administrative action in child abuse and neglect cases, particularly child sexual abuse and exploitation cases, including the enhancement of performance of court-appointed attorneys and guardians ad litem for children, and which also ensure procedural fairness to the accused.
- Reform of State laws, ordinances, regulations, protocols and procedures to provide comprehensive protection for children, which may include those children involved in reports of child

abuse or neglect with a potential combination of jurisdictions, such as intrastate, interstate, Federal-State, and State-Tribal, from child abuse and neglect, including child sexual abuse and exploitation, while ensuring fairness to all affected persons.

D. Codes

- The Assistance Listing Number for the Program is 93.643.
- The Cal OES four-character code for this Program is CJA0.

V. Sexual Assault Services Formula Program

The Program is authorized by 34 U.S.C. §12511. The Program was created by the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005, as amended by the technical amendments to that act, and is the first federal funding stream solely dedicated to the provision of direct intervention and related assistance for victims of sexual assault.

A. Purpose

The Program directs grant dollars to states and territories to assist them in supporting rape crisis centers and other nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations or tribal programs that provide direct intervention and related assistance to victims of sexual assault, without regard to age. Rape crisis centers and other nonprofit and tribal organizations, such as dual programs providing both sexual violence and domestic violence intervention services, play a vital role in assisting sexual assault victims through the healing process, as well as assisting victims through the medical, criminal justice, and social support systems. Funds provided through the Program are designed to supplement other funding sources directed at addressing sexual assault at the state and territorial level.

B. Match

The Program does not require a match.

C. Restrictions/Guidelines

- Funds may not be used to conduct research, defined in [28 C.F.R. § 46.102](#) as a systematic investigation designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge. Surveys and focus groups,

depending on their design and purpose, may constitute research and therefore be out-of-scope. Prohibited research does not include assessments conducted for internal improvement purposes only.

- Funds may not be used for activities focused on prevention efforts and education (e.g., bystander intervention, social norms campaigns, presentations on healthy relationships, etc.).
- Funds may not be used for criminal justice-related projects, including law enforcement, prosecution, courts, and forensic interviews.
- Funds may not be used for Sexual Assault Forensic Medical Examiner programs.
- Funds may not be used for Sexual Assault Response Team coordination.
- Funds may not be used for providing training to allied professions and the community (e.g., law enforcement, child protection services, prosecution, other community-based organizations, etc.).
- Funds may not be used for domestic violence services unrelated to sexual violence.

D. Codes

- The Assistance Listing Number for the Program is 16.017.
- The Cal OES four-character code for this Program is SASP.

VI. Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program

The Program is authorized by Public Law 90-351, Title I, Sec. 2801-2806 (codified at 34 U.S.C. 10561-10566).

A. Purpose

The purpose of the Program is to provide funding to acquire and maintain accreditation; to improve the quality and timeliness of forensic services; to eliminate a backlog in the analysis of forensic science evidence; to train, assist and employ forensic laboratory

personnel and medicolegal death investigators, as needed to eliminate such a backlog; to address emerging forensic science issues; to educate and train forensic pathologists; and to fund medicolegal death investigation systems to facilitate accreditation of medical examiner and coroner offices and certification of medicolegal death investigators.

B. Match

The Program does not require a match.

C. Restrictions/Guidelines

- Funds may not be used to conduct research.
- Funds may not be used for expenses of general law enforcement functions or non-forensic investigatory functions.
- Funds may not be used for costs of any new facility that exceed the limits described in [34 U.S.C. § 10564\(c\)](#).
- Funds may not be used for Subrecipient administrative expenses (direct or indirect) that exceed 10 percent of the total Grant Subaward amount.
- Funds may not be used for the purchase and/or lease of vehicles, such as crime scene vans.

D. Codes

- The Assistance Listing Number for the Program is 16.742.
- The Cal OES four-character code for this Program is FSIA.