* **ICJIA indicated the training video would be posted March 20th. Where do I find it?**

Due to Covid-19, we have had to modify the webinar and replace it with a PowerPoint presentation. You can find the PowerPoint presentation on our website: ICJIA.State.il.us; in the Grants section, under Funding Opportunities. Choose this NOFO (Civil Legal). Go to the Technical Assistance Section and click on PowerPoint highlighted in blue. When you open the PowerPoint, click slide show and make sure your volume is on.

* **The regional classification of counties divides up some of our office service areas. Is it possible to move counties from the regional classifications to accommodate the grantee needs?**

Applicants are expected to answer the NOFO as is, and not change the regions for which they are applying.

* **If an agency is a social service provider who’s Legal Assistance department is within the larger, multi-service organization. Would the agency be eligible to apply for this funding (on behalf of the Agency’s Legal Assistance department)?**

We have outlined the eligibility requirements on pages 15-17 of the NOFO. In brief, eligible applicants include public agencies and nonprofit organizations, whose primary mission is the provision of legal assistance services through the use of attorneys. If a victim service agency doesn’t currently focus on the provision of legal services, then it is not eligible.

* **Will there be an extension of the submission deadline of April 17, 2020 for the Civil Legal Assistance application?**

At this time, ICJIA does not know if there will be an extension.  ICJIA will re-evaluate as needed.

* **Is the Community Characteristics Table a requirement on page two of the narrative? If so, can we use the data collected in 2017 for the applications?**

Please note that with all federal grants, it is mandated that ICJIA collect this data. However, if you have the 2017 data, you may utilize this data for this NOFO and explain your reasoning.

* **Are letters of commitment from every DV or SA program that provides counseling, shelter, or case management, necessary?**

Please note that with all federal grants, it is mandated that ICJIA collect letters of commitment. The Letters of Commitment should be from agencies with substantive coordination, not every agency or perhaps a coalition.

* **Is match a requirement for this grant? Does the State have the option to waive or reduce match requirements?**

Per Federal guidelines, match is a requirement is for this NOFO. However, requests for a match waiver are done on a case by case basis and may be completed at the beginning of the grant.

* **If a grantee is already receiving VOCA funds for this program and are seeking additional funds, please explain how these additional funds will complement the funding you are already receiving.**

This question is pertains to current grantees who may already be receiving VOCA funding. If you are receiving VOCA funds, how will these additional VOCA funds compliment those VOCA funds. If you have Civil Legal program that is ending, simply state that it is ending and this funding would be continuing that program.

* **If we apply for $200,000 in year One, would we be able to seek an increase potentially in years Two and Three?**

What you request and are awarded in year One, you will receive the same dollar amounts for years two and three.

* **Management/coordinator salaries- The NOFO says these are unallowable, but we have always had our these positions in our approved budget for the program for their efforts spent actively managing the program and direct service staff. Can we continue to include these positions? Elsewhere in the NOFO, employing a program coordinator is encouraged, so I'm confused as to whether positions that manage/coordinate the attorneys, volunteers and the grant program are allowable or not?**

The management/coordinator salaries are allowed if they related directly to services of victims.

* **Would the VOCA program pay for part of a new legal database? We are increasingly interested in seeking an improved database that will make our reporting to funders including VOCA easier.**

As long as the database is for direct services of victims, this is allowable.

* **Food and beverage costs are listed as unallowable-- are these for providing food and beverages at meetings/conferences, or allowing staff to have a daily per diem when we send them to trainings and conferences?**

Providing food and beverages at meetings & conferences are unallowable.  Per diem is allowable.

* **Letters of Support: We have an existing MOU with our rape crisis center partners for another grant. Can we submit this existing one for this grant, if the services agreed to are the same?**

No, you must submit Letters of Support that reference this NOFO.

* **Trauma informed training- The NOFO lists vicarious trauma and AND victim-centered trauma as areas to focus on. Do we have to provide one training on each per year? Can we pick one? Can we develop our own training for staff? If not, does ICJIA have** **resources or guidance about what the VOCA program seeks for this?**

We prefer Vicarious Trauma.  You may create your own program if you like, and we would like one per year.

* **"Active investigation and prosecution of criminal activities, and witness activities"  Can you clarify what is meant by this one? Does it mean that we cannot use VOCA funds to pay witness fees, or is there more to it?**

No VOCA funds may be used to fund or support the following:

                (c) Active investigation and prosecution of criminal activities – The active investigation and prosecution of criminal activity, except for the provision of victim assistance services (e.g., emotional support, advocacy, and legal services) to crime victims, under § 94.119, during such investigation and prosecution.