

Frequently Asked Questions

- Q. I am hoping you can email me a copy of any specifications and/or documents associated with this project. If they can't be emailed, please let me know.
- A. The VOCA Request for Proposal can be found at this link: dfa.arkansas.gov/intergovernmental-services/grant-programs/request-for-proposals. Please review the "Important Dates" page carefully.
- Q. For one project, we will be proposing a pilot project for developing short term and transitional housing options for victims of crime (ages 23 and younger) through a network of licensed host homes. The project would include recruiting, training, and supervising host home families who are equipped to provide trauma-informed housing to victims of crime. Additionally, initial project activities would include a series of trainings in which the host home coordinator would complete in order to incorporate into the host home trainings. To verify, would VOCA be the most appropriate funding opportunity among the 3 (VOCA, STOP, FVSPA)?
- A. I cannot make that determination for you. You have provided some information about your project; however, you have far more details about it and should make your funding source determination based on those details and how they correlate to that source.
- Q. For our second project, we would like to expand opportunities for age-appropriate, trauma-informed, therapeutic activities at Overcomer Central (our center for youth) for youth victims of crime. The project would include the development of new roles to support youth engagement, positive peer support networks, and therapeutic, experiential life skills. Would grant funds be allowable to use for a portion of the youth's center's maintenance and utilities which had previously been paid with unrestricted community donations. For example, if costs for utilities where the project will take place were previously paid by private donations, is it supplanting to request funds to ensure the utilities are paid for the duration of the project?
- A. There is not enough information to determine if it would be supplanting or not; however, at face value it appears to be.

- Q. The online application requests that we provide the number of victims we anticipate will be served by the project. For projects that focus on training providers who serve victims of crime, how should we fill this out? Should we say “zero” because we are not directly providing the services for victims of crime or should we try to estimate (using state or national data) how many victims of crime the service providers we train are likely to serve?
- A. Since you’re proposing a training project, please provide an approximate number of how many will be trained.
- Q. When we do a training for providers, is food an allowable cost such as boxed lunches provided for an all-day training?
- A. Food and other refreshments are not allowable expenditures.
- Q. When figuring the match of the total project would this include the indirect costs dollar amount?
- A. Yes, this would include the In-Direct costs as well.
- Q. In the past, at least in 2009 in a STOP application, it said that DFA did not allow indirect costs? Just confirming that has changed?
- A. That is correct, in 2009 In-Direct costs were not allowable, and yes it has changed.
- Q. I work with Cooper-Anthony Mercy Child Advocacy Center in Hot Springs and we received a VOCA grant for 2017-2018 and it was renewed for 2018-19. Is that eligible to be renewed for a third year? If not, would it be possible to apply for the 2019-20 VOCA using that same project?
- A. The current subgrant awards have reached their term-limit of two (2) years, so if your organization wants to continue the currently funded project you should respond to at least one (1) of the published Requests for Proposal.
- Q. The FVPSA RFP that was just posted didn’t list a range of amounts that could be requested. Could you provide any guidance on that?
- A. The amount FVPSA funds available for subawards is 100,000,000. The Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration does not suggest or recommend an amount that entity should request, that is determine by the needs of the proposed project.
- Q. Will the March 28 Solicitation Technical Assistance Workshop be streamed online or posted later for viewing online?
- A. Technical Assistance Workshops will not be streamed online or posted at any time for viewing.
- Q. If we are wanting to pay non-UAMS personnel (such as a Psychologist that will be counseling victims) in other areas of the state would we list this as “other”?

- A. The Psychologist that will be working throughout the state should do so under a “Professional Services Agreement” not Other.
- Q. If we want to submit two separate VOCA applications, how would we do that?
- A. You will start over in IGS Connect, find the VOCA Opportunity, and submit a separate VOCA application,
- Q. To provide a picture of your organization's capability to properly manage federal funds, would this be UAMS as a whole or the department for which is applying for the grant?
- A. The Financial Overview would be about the Department.
- Q. List all revenue sources and amounts that will allow the organization to operate during the project year, list grants and non-grant funds, again would this be UAMS as a whole or just the department for which is submitting the grant?
- A. You are applying for UAMS, therefore, it would be only about the Department.
- Q: May Executive Director’s or Program Directors who oversee the programs, salaries be used as part of the match?
- A. Yes, however, I would limit the Executive Director’s salary to a minimal amount of time. The reason is; for the Executive Directors time used as match, that person is restricted to the activities of the subgrant.
- Q. May state funds that support salaries/programs be used as a match, as long as they are not federal funds.
- A. Yes, state funds may be used as match.
- Q. Is there a cap of volunteer hours used as match?
- A. No there is no cap on the number of volunteer hours that can be used as match; however, we work to keep the number of hours reasonable and obtainable for each organization.
- Q. I would confirm about references for the narrative and that MOUs can be submitted after getting funded (I think I heard November) since there is no place for either one of them in application.
- A. You are, MOU’s and other required documents will need to be provided once an entity has been funded.
- Q. Additionally, for those we partner with, do we include their pay, volunteer numbers etc. in our overall budget?
- A. Salaries included in the project budget will be for those who are a part of the project. That includes those who are employed by your organizations and/or those with whom you have a Professional Services Agreement (Partners).

- Q. I need to make sure that they are okay with training activities. For example, mental health services are a category but let's make sure that training mental health professionals on evidence-based treatment approaches would be allowable as long as we can document the victims of crime that they are serving. Similarly, what about training to help teachers or other social service professionals understand classroom strategies or other approaches to identifying the needs and supporting children and youth who have been victims of crime? Basically, trauma informed care training. Is that okay as long as we can demonstrate those professionals are serving victims of crime?
- A. Training/Trauma Informed training is an allowable activity. We cannot respond to the specific training types, as it appears you've not made definitive project decisions.
- Q. Is there a volunteer waiver with the Jessica Gonzales Assistants grant since the worker will be in a law enforcement agency? I am thinking of a victim services worker that has to enter and exit a jail facility. Safety issues, etc.
- A. There is no STOP Volunteer waiver; please give serious consideration to the multitude of uses for Volunteers.
- Q. Can we use department administrative leadership time as match since they support all our work including processing the grant?
- A. Yes, a pro-rated share of the department's administrative leadership time can be as match.
- Q. It is stated on the home screen that I have one opportunity available, so has the correct grant already been chosen?
- A. On the Project Summary page, question #9 asks "Grant Type," there is a drop down that allows you to choose which grant type you are applying for.