

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

The Crime Victim Services Division (CVSD) of the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) is soliciting local and statewide applications from 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 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:

Only agencies that have not already received an SAPCS-Federal award for FY2008 are eligible to apply. Eligible applicants are: 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.

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 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.

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 RFA; the application is filed after the deadline established in the RFA; 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/grants2008.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:

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 October 5, 2007 to be considered timely filed.

Filing Instructions: **To meet the deadline, the Applicant must submit both paper (hard copies) and electronic (email) documents.** An Application will be considered filed when the OAG receives the paper (hard copies) and the electronic (email) Application in the following ways by the required deadline:

(1) Paper (hard copies) - Via Next Day Air Overnight delivery service (Federal Express, United Parcel Service, DHL or Lone Star):

- The Applicant must submit one original and three hard copies of the complete Application (Excel workbook and all attachments).
- The complete Application (Excel workbook and all attachments) 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 original and three hard copies must be received by 5:00 p.m. CST on October 5, 2007.
- Applications hand-delivered by the Applicant or submitted via any kind of same day courier service will not be accepted.

(2) Electronic - Via email:

- The Applicant must submit the Excel workbook.
- The Excel workbook must be sent to the following email address:
CVSGrantsApplications@oag.state.tx.us
- The email must be received by 5:00 p.m. CST on October 5, 2007.

The OAG will **not** consider an Application if it is not filed by the due date, 5:00 pm CST on October 5, 2007.

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 or statewide programs—\$25,000 per fiscal year; currently funded local programs—\$100,000 per fiscal year; and currently funded statewide programs—\$300,000 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 FY07. 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 eighteen months from December 1, 2007 through August 31, 2009, subject to and contingent on funding and/or approval by the OAG.

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: The funding priority for the SAPCS–Federal program is to support positions that work towards the development and implementation of primary prevention strategies and activities. 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 development and implementation of primary prevention strategies and activities. This position must, at a minimum, work 20 hours per week on primary prevention activities.

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; administrative costs and/or personnel; 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 Sheila Hall at CVSGrantsApplications@oag.state.tx.us or (512) 936-6397.