



VOCA ALLOWABLE & UNALLOWABLE COSTS

The Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) was signed by President Ronald Reagan on October 12, 1984. The Act is a federal law that provides financial assistance through the creation of the Crime Victims Fund to support a variety of services and activities to assist victims of crime. Pursuant to the Act, priority is given to programs serving victims of sexual assault, spousal abuse, child abuse and underserved victims. The Act additionally gives each State the opportunity to meet the needs of all victims while encouraging services for the above-mentioned priority categories.

ALLOWABLE COSTS & ACTIVITIES

DIRECT SERVICES

- 1. Facilitation of participation in criminal justice and other public proceedings arising from the crime (legal advocacy).**
- 2. Immediate emotional, psychological, and physical health and safety services.** Examples include but are not limited to:
 - Crisis intervention services
 - Accompanying victims to hospitals for medical examinations
 - Hotline counseling
 - Safety planning
 - Emergency food, shelter, clothing, and transportation
 - Short-term (up to 45 days) in-home care and supervision services for children and adults who remain in their own homes when the offender/caregiver is removed
 - Short-term (up to 45 days) nursing home, adult foster care, or group-home placement for adults for whom no other safe, short-term residence is available
 - Window, door, or lock replacement or repair and other repairs to ensure a victim's safety
 - Costs of the following, on an emergency basis:

(i.e. When one of the following is not expected to be available quickly enough to meet the emergency needs of a victim [typically within 48 hours of the crime]: The State's compensation program; the victim's - or in the case of a minor, the victim's parent's or guardian's - health insurance plan; Medicaid; or other health care funding source.)

 - Non-prescription and prescription medicine
 - Prophylactic or other treatment to prevent HIV/AIDS infection or other infectious disease
 - Durable medical equipment (wheelchairs, crutches, hearing aids, eyeglasses, etc.),
 - Other healthcare items
 - Emergency legal assistance, such as for filing for restraining or protective orders and obtaining emergency custody orders and visitation rights



- 3. Personal advocacy and emotional support.** Examples include but are not limited to:
- Working with a victim to assess the impact of the crime
 - Identification of victim's needs
 - Case management
 - Management of practical problems created by the victimization such as:
 - Acting on behalf of the victim with other service providers, creditors, or employers
 - Assisting the victim to recover property retained as evidence
 - Assisting in filing for compensation benefits
 - Helping to apply for public assistance
 - Identification of resources available to the victim
 - Provision of information, referrals, advocacy, and follow-up contact for continued services
 - Traditional, cultural, and/or alternative therapy/healing (e.g., art therapy, yoga)

ACTIVITIES SUPPORTING DIRECT SERVICES

- 4. Automated systems and technology.**
- 5. Contracts for professional services.**
- 6. Coordination of activities.** Examples include but are not limited to:
- Statewide coordination of victim notification systems
 - Crisis response teams
 - Coalitions to support and assist victims
 - Salaries and expense of coordinators
- 7. Multi-system, interagency, multidisciplinary response to crime victims.**

ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS

- 8. Equipment and furniture.**
- 9. Indirect costs.**
- 10. Leasing or purchasing of vehicles,** if they are essential to providing direct services.
- 11. Maintenance, repair, or replacement of essential items.**
- 12. Operating costs.**
- 13. Organizational expenses** necessary and essential to providing direct and other approved victim services.
- 14. Personnel costs directly related to providing direct services and supporting activities.**
Examples include but are not limited to:



- Staff and coordinator salaries (including fringe benefits)
- Prorated share of liability insurance

15. Project evaluation.

16. Public awareness.

17. Skills training for direct service staff and volunteers.

18. Supervision of direct service providers.

19. Training-related travel costs for paid direct service staff.

20. VOCA administrative time. (i.e. time administrative staff spend working on VOCA-specific tasks, such as processing payroll for VOCA-funded staff or entering data for VOCA-funded activities)

UNALLOWABLE COSTS & ACTIVITIES

- 1. Active investigation and prosecution of criminal activities.**
- 2. Capital expenses.**
- 3. Compensation for victims of crime.**
- 4. Fundraising activities.**
- 5. Lobbying activities.** (e.g. ANDVSA membership dues)
- 6. Medical care,** except as allowed by other VOCA Rule provisions.
- 7. Research and studies.**
- 8. Salaries and expenses of management.** Salaries, benefits, fees, furniture, equipment, and other expenses of Executive Directors, Board members, and other administrators (except as specifically allowed elsewhere in the VOCA Rules).