



Allowable Costs for Federal Grant Funds

A Roundtable
Discussion

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Office on Violence Against Women Funding

SASP
STOP

The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) is housed under the United States Department of Justice (DOJ).

The mission of OVW is to provide federal leadership in developing the national capacity to reduce violence against women, and administer justice for and strengthen services to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assaults, and stalking.

OVW formula grants include the Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP) grant and the STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant.

Sexual Assault Services Program Grant

SASP

The purpose of the SASP grant is to provide intervention, advocacy, accompaniment, support services, and related assistance to:

- Adult, youth, and child victims of sexual assault
- Non-offending family and household members of victims
- Those collaterally affected by the victimization

Sexual Assault Services Program Grant

SASP

Allowable Costs & Activities:

- 24-hour hotline
- Advocacy through medical, criminal justice, social support systems
- Crisis-intervention services
- Short-term support services
- Comprehensive service coordination & supervision
- Counseling services
- Information & referrals
- Community-based, linguistically & culturally-specific services
- Development & distribution of materials on issues related to allowable services
- Covering costs associated with allowable supports
- Training for direct-service staff
- Administrative costs associated with SASP-funded staff

Sexual Assault Services Program Grant

SASP

Unallowable Costs & Activities:

- Services only to specific age group
- Education/training programs
- Prevention efforts
- Legal advice/representation
- Training curricula development
- Lobbying
- Research projects
- Building modifications
- Vehicle purchase
- SANE projects
- Criminal justice projects
- SART financial support
- DV services unrelated to sexual violence
- Food / beverages
- Fundraising
- Activities that compromise victim safety & recovery & undermine offender accountability

Services, Training, Officers, and Prosecutors Grant

STOP

A STOP grant's goal is to develop and strengthen a state's criminal justice system's response to violence against women including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking, and dating violence and to support and enhance services for victims.

While the focus is on projects and services for adult women and girls (age 11 to adulthood), victims of any gender may be served. Funds may also support:

- Secondary victims such as children who may have witnessed violence
- Men, women, and children in correctional and detention settings who currently or have been victims of sexual violence
- Individuals historically marginalized from mainstream services such as those within the LGBTQI community.

Services, Training, Officers, and Prosecutors Grant

STOP

Allowable Costs & Activities:

- Emergency food, shelter, transportation
- Crisis intervention, short-term support services, service coordination & supervision
- 24-hour hotline
- Information & referrals
- Services for child (aged 11+) sexual assault survivors
- Services for adults who survived child sexual abuse
- Substance abuse counseling for DV/SA victims
- Advocacy through medical, legal, immigration & social support systems
- Legal services
- Service coordination & training
- Outreach, prevention & education
- Community-based, linguistically & culturally-specific services
- Program evaluation

Services, Training, Officers, and Prosecutors Grant

STOP

Unallowable Costs & Activities:

- Lobbying
- Research projects
- Physical modifications to buildings
- Vehicle purchases
- Legal services to defend victims who injure or kill their abusers
- Payment of immigration fees
- Moving expenses (outside of transportation costs to enhance safety)
- Vouchers for services
- Activities that compromise victim safety and recovery and undermine offender accountability

Office for Victims of Crime Funding

VOCA

The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) is also housed under the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) and administers the Crime Victims Fund, established under the 1984 Victims of Crime Act, to help victims and victim service providers with program funding.

Federal revenues deposited into the Crime Victims Fund come from criminal fines, forfeitures, special assessments, and gifts or donations, not from taxpayers.

OVC administers the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) formula grant program.

Victims of Crime Act Grant

VOCA

VOCA grants provide financial assistance to support services and activities to assist victims of crime. Pursuant to the Victims of Crime Act, priority is given to programs serving victims of sexual assault, spousal abuse, child abuse, and underserved victims.

Assistance to crime victims includes crisis counseling, telephone and onsite information and referrals, criminal justice support and advocacy, shelter, therapy, and additional assistance. Funds may also be used to develop new programs that address emerging needs, gaps in services, and training of victim service advocates.

Victims of Crime Act Grant

VOCA

Allowable Costs & Activities:

- Facilitation of participation in criminal justice & other proceedings arising from the crime
- Immediate emotional, psychological, & physical health & safety services
- Personal advocacy & emotional support
- Activities supporting direct services
- Equipment & furniture
- Indirect costs
- VOCA administrative time
- Maintenance, repair, replacement of essential items
- Vehicles for direct service
- Operating costs & organizational expenses
- Personnel costs related to direct services including supervision costs
- Project evaluation
- Public awareness
- Skills training & related travel costs for direct service staff

Victims of Crime Act Grant

VOCA

Unallowable Costs & Activities:

- Active investigation & prosecution of criminal activities
- Capital expenses
- Compensation for victims of crime
- Fundraising activities
- Lobbying activities
- Medical care (except as specifically allowed)
- Research & studies
- Salaries & expenses of management (except as specifically allowed)

Department of Health & Human Services Funding

FVPSA

The United States Department of Health & Human Services' Family & Youth Services Bureau houses the Family Violence Prevention and Services Program, which administers the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA).

FVPSA is the primary federal funding stream dedicated to the support of emergency shelter and related assistance for victims of domestic violence and their children.

Family Violence Prevention & Services Act Grant

FVPSA

CDVSA uses FVPSA funds to finance programs throughout Alaska that address the issue of domestic violence, family violence, or dating violence by providing shelter or related assistance to victims and their children.

These programs operate facilities that are staffed 24/7 and provide a full spectrum of services including basic food and immediate shelter, crisis intervention, counseling, and advocacy.

Family Violence Prevention & Services Act Grant

FVPSA

Allowable Costs & Activities:

- Shelter & supportive services
- Safety planning
- Individual & group counseling
- Services, training, technical assistance & outreach to increase awareness
- Prevention services
- Services for children exposed to DV
- Services for non-abusing parent to support care-giving
- Culturally & linguistically appropriate services
- Advocacy & case management services
- Information & referrals

Family Violence Prevention & Services Act Grant

FVPSA

Unallowable Costs & Activities:

- Sexual assault programming (outside of intimate partner SA)
- Lobbying
- Direct payment to victims or dependents
- Reimbursement for health care services
- Any emergency service or shelter that requires participants to comply with certain conditions
- Charging fees to victims
- Providing services or training exclusively on abuse/assault outside of DV

State of Alaska General Fund Grants

GF

Allowable Costs & Activities:

- Funds are mostly unrestricted
- Expended funds must align with the approved project proposal

Unallowable Costs & Activities:

- Interest costs on loans
- Contingency funds
- Lobbying
- Fines, penalties, bad debts
- Contributions / donations
- Entertainment