

**Office of the Attorney General
Request for Applications (RFA) for the
Domestic Violence High Risk Teams Grant Program;
Planning Grant to a State Domestic Violence Coalition Grant Program**

The Crime Victim Services Division (CVSD) of the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) is soliciting applications from State Domestic Violence Coalitions to utilize funds to prevent domestic violence and domestic violence homicide in Texas. The successful applicant will assist the OAG in implementing the Domestic Violence High-Risk Teams grant program established by House Bill 3327 (84th Regular Session).

The funds for the project will be awarded to the successful applicant to assist the OAG in implementing the Domestic Violence High-Risk Teams grant program and to facilitate collaborative efforts to (1) identify pilot sites in local communities that have the capacity to expand existing domestic violence high risk teams; (2) evaluate funded pilot site results; (3) identify best practice models that may be implemented in other communities; (4) provide technical assistance to grantees and other communities interested in implementing domestic violence high risk teams; and (5) make recommendations to improve the grant program or the implementation of the high risk teams.

Applicable Funding Source: The source of funding is through an appropriation by the Texas Legislature. All funding is contingent upon an appropriation to the OAG by the Texas Legislature. The OAG makes no commitment that an application, once submitted, or a grant, once funded, will receive subsequent funding.

Eligibility Requirements:

Eligible Applicants: State Domestic Violence Coalition – a statewide nonprofit organization that has been identified as a domestic violence coalition by a state or federal agency authorized to make that designation.

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 Application Kit; the application is filed after the deadline established in the Application Kit; 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 website at <https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/cvs/grants-and-contracts>. Updates and other helpful reminders about the application process will also be posted at this location. Potential applicants are encouraged to refer to the site regularly.

Deadlines and Filing Instructions for the Grant Application:

Registration Deadline: Online registration is required to apply for a grant. The deadline to register will be stated in the Application Kit. If registration is not completed by the deadline, then an Application will not be accepted and is not eligible for funding. To register go to:

<https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/cvs/grants-and-contracts>.

Application Deadline: The applicant must submit its application, including all required attachments to the OAG. The OAG must receive the submitted application and all required attachments by the deadline established in the Application Kit.

Filing Instructions: Strict compliance with the filing instructions, as provided in the Application Kit, is required.

The OAG will **not** consider an Application if it is not filed by the due date as stated in the Application Kit.

Minimum and Maximum Amounts of Funding Available: The minimum amount of funding is \$10,000 per fiscal year. The maximum amount of funding is \$30,000 per fiscal year.

The award amount 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 one year and nine months from January 1, 2016 through August 31, 2017, subject to and contingent on funding and/or approval by the OAG.

No Match Requirements: There are no match requirements.

Award Criteria:

The OAG will make funding decisions that support the efficient and effective use of public funds. Scoring components may include, but are not limited to: information provided by the applicant on the organization's capacity, infrastructure, current knowledge, efforts, expertise and experience, and on the proposed project activities and budget.

Grant Purpose Area:

The purpose of the Planning Grant to a State Domestic Violence Coalition is to assist the OAG in developing a plan to identify, assess, develop, and sustain Domestic Violence High Risk Teams (DVHRT) in Texas. The successful Applicant will facilitate a collaborative process to:

- Identify pilot sites in local communities that have the capacity to expand existing domestic violence high risk teams;
- Evaluate funded pilot site results;
- Identify best practice models that may be implemented in other communities;
- Provide technical assistance to communities interested in implementing domestic violence high risk teams; and

- Make recommendations to improve the implementation and/or the expansion of DVHRTs in Texas.

Ineligible Activities: Ineligible activities include, but are not limited to:

- Activities solely for research purposes
- Activities solely for the prosecution of an offender, such as witness coordination, expert witness fees, or prosecutor salaries
- Activities solely for law enforcement purposes, such as investigators or patrol officers
- Probation activities that assist an offender
- Offender-related activities, such as mediation or alcohol/drug abuse counseling
- Activities solely to prevent crime
- **NEW:** Public Awareness Campaigns

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 grant-funded program; the costs for consultants or vendors who participate directly in writing a grant application; payment of bad debt, fines or penalties; medical costs, such as Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) fees or salaries, or items paid for by the Crime Victims Compensation (CVC) fund, 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.

OAG Contact Person: If additional information is needed, contact Lyndsay Ysla at Grants@texasattorneygeneral.gov or (512) 936-1278.