

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 applications from sexual assault programs and state sexual assault coalitions that wish to utilize SAPCS–Federal funds for projects that support the primary prevention of sexual violence.

Applicable Funding Source: The source of federal funds includes the Federal Department of Health and Human Services, Preventive 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 primary prevention of sexual violence. State funding may also be available. 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:

Eligible Applicants: Sexual assault programs and state sexual assault coalitions are eligible to apply for a SAPCS–Federal grant. Funding eligibility may be further limited as stated in the Application Kit.

Sexual Assault Programs - any local public or private nonprofit corporation, independent of a law enforcement agency or prosecutor’s office, that is operated as an independent program or as part of a municipal, county, or state agency and that provides the minimum services to adult survivors of stranger and non-stranger sexual assault. The following minimum services must be offered for at least nine months prior to receiving a SAPCS-Federal grant contract:

- a 24-hour crisis hotline;
- crisis intervention;
- public education;
- advocacy; and
- accompaniment to hospitals, law enforcement offices, prosecutors’ offices, and courts.

State Sexual Assault Coalitions – a statewide nonprofit organization that has been identified as a state sexual assault 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 official agency 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 this site regularly.

Deadlines and Filing Instructions for the Grant Application:

Registration Deadline: On-line registration is required to apply for a SAPCS-Federal grant. The deadline to complete registration is listed in the application kit and on the website. 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 and the OAG must receive the submitted application and all required attachments by 5:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time, January 6, 2016 to be considered timely filed.

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 each program may apply for is \$85,000 per fiscal year. The maximum amounts of funding are as follows: sexual assault programs \$85,000 per fiscal year; and designated state sexual assault coalition—\$425,000 per fiscal year.

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 period is up to three years from February 1, 2016 through January 31, 2019, subject to and contingent on funding and/or approval by the OAG. Contracts will be awarded for a one year period (term).

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 violence and any other purposes consistent with Texas Government Code, Chapter 420.

Staffing: 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 coordination and implementation of primary prevention efforts. This position must be for a full-time Primary Prevention Coordinator.

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 may give priority to current SAPCS-Federal grantees.

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; direct counseling, treatment, or advocacy services to victims or perpetrators of sexual violence; victim response training on how service providers should respond to victims of sexual violence (i.e., hospital advocacy, law enforcement training, SANE training and judicial response); research; and out-of-state travel for sexual assault programs.

None of these funds may be used to pay for any medical services to any medical service provider.

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