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Enclosed, you will find the Notice of Availability for Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds for the October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025 (2024-2025) grant cycle. There, you will find eligibility information and application instructions. The purpose of this letter is to advise and prepare VOCA grant applicants and recipients for the significant decrease in funds being made available by the Federal government.

As Florida's state administering agency of VOCA grants, the Office of the Attorney General is limited to awarding the funds allocated by the Federal government. In consecutive years, the Federal government reduced Florida's VOCA fund allocation by 26% and 38%. While we have successfully managed the 26% reduction in VOCA funds, it is imperative that all VOCA grant applicants be aware that Florida's 2024-2025 VOCA funds may be 25% lower than the previous grant cycle.

As many of you know from meetings with this office and public statements by the Attorney General, General Moody is working with our state and Federal partners to increase available funds. While we are optimistic that General Moody will find ways to minimize the damage being done by the Federal government's failure to amend the VOCA Fix Act, it is imperative that VOCA grant recipients prepare for significant grant reductions. In preparation for this possibility, General Moody has also authorized the office to waive the "match requirement" for 2024-2025 VOCA grant recipients.

Please note that consideration for funding may be based on previous years' application scores, the submitted application, percentage of funds spent from previous awards, and compliance with grant requirements to expedite the review and approval process.

If you have any questions, please direct them to the Bureau of Advocacy and Grants Management, as instructed in the enclosed Notice of Availability.

Sincerely,

Joseph Spataro
Associate Deputy Attorney General



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NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

VOCA Grant Funds

Announcement: The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) is pleased to announce the availability of Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant funds from the U.S. Department of Justice. The purpose of the VOCA grant reimbursement program is to support the provision of services to victims of crime. Services are defined as those efforts that respond to the emotional and physical needs of crime victims, assist victims of crime to stabilize their lives after victimization, assist victims to understand and participate in the criminal justice system, and provide victims of crime with a measure of safety and security. Eligibility to apply for VOCA funds is limited to victim assistance programs administered by state or local government agencies or not-for-profit corporations registered in Florida, or a combination thereof, that can demonstrate the following:

- 1) proof that the Internal Revenue Service recognizes the organization as being tax exempt under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code;
- 2) a statement from a state taxing body or state secretary of state certifying that the organization is a nonprofit organization and that no part of the organization's net earnings may benefit any private shareholder or individual;
- 3) a certified copy of a certificate of incorporation or similar document establishing nonprofit status; or
- 4) any of the above, if it applies to a state or national parent organization, with a statement by the state or national parent organization that the applicant is a local nonprofit affiliate.

The funding cycle for the VOCA grant funds under this notice is October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025.

Application and Deadline: Organizations may participate in the annual competitive grant process which involves submission of an application followed by an application review. **Under this notice, there are two different applications and 2 different application deadlines.** Please see below for detailed instructions on how to apply and which application process is appropriate for each agency.

Current VOCA subgrantees

Those agencies that currently have a VOCA grant and are in good standing, will complete a condensed application. The VOCA condensed application may be found using the Office of the Attorney General's online system EGrants IGX, which can be accessed through <https://egrantsigx.myfloridalegal.com/> beginning on March 15, 2024. The deadline to complete the condensed application is no later than 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on March 29, 2024. *The condensed applications will be reviewed and considered for funding prior to other applications submitted.* Once the timeframe above closes, any current subgrantees that did not submit the

condensed application would need to apply through the same process as agencies that do not currently have a VOCA grant through the Office of the Attorney General and will follow the normal process as new applicant agencies in prior grant years.

Agencies that do not currently have a VOCA grant through the Office of the Attorney General

Those agencies that DO NOT currently have a VOCA grant through the Florida Office of the Attorney General may submit the standard application through the Office of the Attorney General's online system EGrants IGX, which can be accessed through <https://egrantsigx.myfloridalegal.com/> beginning on April 12, 2024. The deadline to complete the standard application is no later than 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on April 26, 2024. When completing the standard application, it is imperative that individuals pay close attention to the detailed information required, to expedite the technical review of the standard application.

Mailed, emailed, faxed, or hand delivered applications or required documentation will not be accepted. If you need assistance you may contact (850) 414-3380 or email contact.voca@myfloridalegal.com.