

1. Question: Is it possible to apply for both grants simultaneously if we technically meet the requirements for both RFPs?

Answer: In general, we encourage all programs that meet eligibility requirements for an RFP to apply. This may mean that certain programs are eligible and apply for multiple open RFPs. However, due to the objectives of the DV services funding, it is unlikely that OCLA would contract with one organization for both a general DV contract and a Native and Tribal DV contract over the same contract term.

2. Question: Can Native and Tribal individuals be prioritized for services on the general RFP?

Answer: Yes. As stated in the general DV RFP, applicants will be scored on the extent to which their proposal prioritizes clients who belong to communities disproportionately affected by domestic violence and who experience the most barriers to access. This encompasses native and tribal survivors, as well as others.

3. Question: The RFP requests an "outline of outcome related objectives and metrics that will be employed to determine program performance and efficacy." Can you provide a little more information about what you are looking for?

Answer: Specific information regarding proposed outcomes and services will help us to evaluate the proposal and understand the potential impact of the program, relative to the proposed scope and size. Please include all estimates or insights on service numbers, outcomes, or other key metrics that illustrate expected program performance.

4. Question: Section III (Components of Proposal) requires an "introduction and statement of organizational purpose" and "outline of outcome related objectives." Can these be incorporated into the project narrative or do these need to be separate answers?

Answer: So long as all information requested by the RFP is contained within the project narrative, these do not need to be provided separately.

5. Question: Is the RFP a renewal or a completely new round?

Answer: This is a completely new RFP and not a renewal of the last 3-year cycle.

6. Question: If the funding continues, is the expectation that the 3-year cycles will repeat?

Answer: While not guaranteed, at this time we anticipate opening up competitive proposals every 3 years. We expect to see both new and returning programs apply in the future.

7. Question: Why is OCLA choosing to award 5 large contracts instead of a greater number of smaller awards?

Answer: Fewer contracts with larger awards are a reflection of OCLA's attempt to fully fund a body of work under each contract. Awards will vary between successful applicants based on the scope of work proposed, but we anticipate contracts that have enough annual funding to cover at least one FTE position.

8. Question: Can a program assist a Domestic Violence Survivor in multiple areas of law?

Answer: Yes, this funding does not define specific areas of law. Programs should propose services (including the content and scope) that they feel is most needed by, and effective for, the survivors they intend to serve.

9. Question: Does the domestic violence (DV) need to occur within the US?

Answer: No, it does not need to occur within the US.

10. Question: Why is the contract duration set for 3 years, given that many contracts are typically for 2 years?

Answer: In this area of law, continuity is a significant benefit to survivors and the programs serving them. Because this is a direct appropriation of continuing funding, fewer restrictions allowed us to choose a 3-year cycle.

11. Question: Is there an age range restriction for services under this RFP?

Answer: There is no age range restriction.

12. Question: Can you provide more information on the geographic requirements?

Answer: There is no specific geographic requirement. Proposals will be scored primarily on their responsiveness to the substantive priorities identified in the RFP. Recognizing the needs for these services in many areas across the state, OCLA will also consider the proposed geographic service areas of all proposals and hopes to distribute awards to programs in varied regions.

This does not mean that each proposal should aim to cover a larger geographic service area.

13. Question: Will a budget proposal that exceeds OCLA's available range be discarded, or will it still be considered for negotiation?

Answer: All complete proposals will be reviewed and scored. If a program is selected as a successful applicant based on the priorities identified in the RFP, OCLA will work with them to adjust their proposed budget based on available funding.

14. Question: Can the proposal cover multiple counties or just one?

Answer: The proposal can cover multiple counties or a single county.

15. Question: Does OCLA have a preference regarding the scope of work, such as prioritizing direct representation versus a broader geographic scope with more limited services?

Answer: OCLA's preference is to ensure high quality legal representation for survivors by each of the programs selected under this funding. While there is no specific requirement, we prioritize representation that leads to long-term outcomes, including full representation. This approach may vary depending on the location and specific circumstances.