

Office of Victim Services and Justice Grants

FY21 Reentry Services and Support RFA

Question and Answer

September 1, 2020

Amended on September 18, 2020

Question 1:

Regarding the Men's Reentry and Housing Pilot program section (page 15 of the RFA), are applicants required to serve 50 men?

Answer:

Applicants are not required to serve 50 men but can "serve up to 50 formerly incarcerated men" (see page 15 of the RFA) if they have the capacity to do so. Applicants should propose to serve a realistic number of men that aligns with the funding available and the services and budget they propose.

Question 2:

Regarding the Men's Reentry and Housing Pilot opportunity:

- a. Is this a pilot for transitional housing, or any model of housing?

Answer:

The pilot is for a housing first model which is a homeless assistance approach that prioritizes providing permanent housing to people experiencing homelessness. Additional principles for the housing pilot can be found on page 16 of the RFA.

- b. What are the deliverable[s] for this grant? Does housing need to be implemented in the grant year, or is this grant for planning and preparing?

Answer:

This is not a multi-year grant therefore, proposals must include planning and implementation to occur in the award period (October 1, 2020 – September 30, 2021).

Question 3:

In order to meet the criteria to apply for any portion of this RFA, does the organization have to be incorporated in DC? Or, does the organization only need to provide services in DC?

Answer:

The organization does not need to be incorporated in DC but must obtain a business license from the District Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs. For complete details and more information, please visit <https://dcra.dc.gov/node/1411971>.

Question 4:

The RFA states that the grant is for a program that "serves adults who are incarcerated by providing advocacy and legal support for individuals serving extreme sentences and seeking sentence review." Does OVSJG intend for this grant to be limited to IRAA work, or would it also consider funding for work done under the new compassionate release sentence reduction law that the Council passed earlier this year?

Answer:

OVSJG will consider funding IRAA work and compassionate release work. The language about IRAA included in that section of the RFA is meant to outline the expectation that the selected grantee should expect to work collaboratively with the existing OVSJG IRAA grantees.

Question 5:

The RFA requires that we submit a recent audit and financial statement. All of our funding has been received through a fiscal sponsorship and so our organization has not had to directly manage any finances yet. However, we do have a D.C. business license and we intend to apply for the RFA, without a fiscal sponsor. We can provide a financial summary as provided from the fiscal sponsor but was not sure if we would need to provide their financial statement and audit as well.

Answer: Page 4 of the RFA under Audit Requirements says the following, "If audited financial statements have never been prepared due to the size or newness of an organization, the applicant must provide, at a minimum, an Organizational Budget, an Income Statement (or Profit and Loss Statement), and a Balance Sheet certified by an authorized representative of the organization, and any letters, filings, etc. submitted to the IRS within the three (3) years before the date of the grant application." An applicant that meets this criteria can submit this information to satisfy the Audit Requirements when submitting an application for the RFA. These documents are important so that OVSJG can determine your financial capacity to manage and provide for accurate accounting of funds. You may want to discuss with your financial manager or accountant how you plan to manage the financials in your application if you are no longer going to be supported by the fiscal agent.

In addition, should an organization be awarded, Post-Award Requirements and Compliance can be found in the OVSJG Policy and Procedure Manual on page 20 under 4.7 Audit Requirements. Based on your description, it appears Section 4.7 (5) is most likely where your organization would fall. Here is a link to those policies and procedures:

https://ovsig.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/ovsig/page_content/attachments/OVSJG%20Grant%20Management%20Policies%20%26%20Procedures_2.pdf.

Question 6:

Our organization would like to allocate a portion of the grant funds in our application to an organization to provide a service in the project. What is the best way to structure our application? We have agreed to prepare an MOU as part of the application and don't know how to make the request in the Budget Narrative.

Answer: This request would go in the Contracts and Consultants part of your budget. Please make sure to submit an MOU or letter of support that outlines the role/responsibilities of the other organization and how their effort contributes to meeting the overall goals and objectives of your proposal.