

Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)
VAWA – Culturally Specific 2023
NOFO # 1744-2498

Task	Date
NOFO Posted	June 1, 2023
Technical Assistance Session	10:00 A.M. Tuesday, June 6, 2023
NOFO question submission deadline	June 22, 2023
Applications due	5:00 p.m. CST, June 30, 2023
Budget Committee review/approval of recommended designations	August 17, 2023
Performance Period	October 1, 2023, to September 30, 2024

CHECKLIST

Prior to application due date:

- ☐ [Register with the System for Award Management \(SAM\), Obtain a Unique Entity ID #](#)
- ☐ [Apply for, update or verify the Employer Identification Number \(EIN\)](#)
- ☐ [Complete registration in the Grantee GATA Portal](#)
- ☐ [Obtain Single Sign-On for application submission in AmpliFund](#)
- ☐ Maintain in “Good” standing with all GATA pre-qualification requirements

Application Submission via AmpliFund

The following process is required:

Step 1: Applying Organization must register in the Illinois Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) Grantee Portal: <https://grants.illinois.gov/portal/>.

Step 2: Applying Organizations must identify an individual(s) who will submit the application via AmpliFund, this person will serve as the Primary Contact for this application. However, more than one individual can have access to and complete components of the application via AmpliFund. The Primary Contact must submit the applications, including attachments, via AmpliFund. To submit an application, go to:
<https://il.amplifund.com/Public/Opportunities/Details/1a1cf131-2f7d-4b61-bc67-ecc22f8c350a>.

To be considered for funding, completed applications must be submitted via the above AmpliFund link by the application deadline of 5:00 p.m., June 30, 2023. ICJIA encourages applicants to review this Technical Assistance Recording for more information on how to apply.

Uniform Notice for Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)
VAWA – Culturally Specific 2023
NOFO # 1744-2498

	Data Field	
1.	Awarding Agency Name:	Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA)
2.	Agency Contact:	Shataun Hailey VAWA Program Administrator Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority 60 E Van Buren Street, Suite 650 Chicago, Illinois 60605 Shataun.Hailey@Illinois.gov 312-793-8550
3.	Announcement Type:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial announcement <input type="checkbox"/> Modification of a previous announcement
4.	Type of Assistance Instrument:	Grant
5.	Funding Opportunity Number:	1744-0623
6.	Funding Opportunity Title:	VAWA – Culturally Specific 2023
7.	CSFA Number:	546-00-1744
8.	CSFA Popular Name:	VAWA
9.	CFDA Number(s):	16.588
10.	Anticipated Number of Awards:	3
11.	Estimated Total Program Funding:	\$300,000
12.	Award Range	\$75,000 to \$100,000
13.	Source of Funding:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal or Federal pass-through <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Private / Other Funding
14.	Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
15.	Indirect Costs Allowed Restrictions on Indirect Costs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
16.	Posted Date:	June 1, 2023
17.	Application Range:	June 1, 2023, to June 30, 2023
18.	Technical Assistance Session:	Session Offered: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Session Mandatory: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No It is recommended that applicants view the recorded technical assistance, which will be available beginning on June 1, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. CST. https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/j.php?MTID=mbc279d3fe4954f68c1a3b04e138c63ad
19.	AmpliFund Application Submission Link:	https://il.amplifund.com/Public/Opportunities/Details/1a1cf131-2f7d-4b61-bc67-ecc22f8c350a

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Notice of Funding Opportunity
Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)
VAWA – Culturally Specific 2023
NOFO # 1744-2498

A. Program Description

The Culturally Specific Program Notice of Funding Opportunity will support development, enhancement, and expansion of culturally specific victim services. In addition, this funding opportunity will support the priority of raising public awareness of victim services, particularly for culturally specific groups. The goal of the Culturally Specific Program is to establish, maintain, and expand sustainable, culturally appropriate services that address the unique needs and challenges of victims of domestic violence or sexual assault from culturally specific communities.

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) funding is federally administered by the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs' Violence Against Women Office. The program emphasizes coordinated, multidisciplinary community approaches to reduce violence against women with enhanced victim advocacy and improved criminal justice system responses. The program encourages improving or developing effective law enforcement and prosecution strategies to address violence against women and advocacy and victim services in cases involving violence against women.

The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) promotes community safety by providing public policy makers, criminal justice professionals, and others with the information, tools, and technology needed to make decisions that improve the quality of criminal justice in Illinois. As the state agency responsible for administering the VAWA Services*Training*Officers*Prosecutors (STOP) award in Illinois, ICJIA developed an implementation plan for distributing these federal funds.

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), authorized by Title IV of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 and subsequently reauthorized as the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 and 2013 (34 U.S.C. 10441), provides financial assistance to states for developing and strengthening effective law enforcement and prosecution strategies and victim services in cases involving violent crimes against women.

ICJIA is authorized to distribute VAWA funds by 20 Ill. Admin. Code 1520.47, which states that upon review annual review of Section 2001 of Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (P.L. 103-322, effective September 13, 1994) ICJIA will select program funding priorities for each federal fiscal year.

1. Purpose

ICJIA works to identify statewide needs through research, examination of state data sources, and collection of feedback from experts in the field. This funding opportunity will address an

important need and service gap identified in Illinois: culturally specific services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking.

Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(7), **culturally specific services** mean community-based services that include culturally relevant and linguistically specific services and resources to culturally specific communities.

The 2022 ICJIA Ad Hoc Victim Services Committee identified priority areas that were later presented to the ICJIA Board, to guide statewide funding decisions. This funding opportunity addresses the priority of advancing equitable victim service access and engagement with a focus on underserved victims, many of which belong to culturally specific groups. These groups include victims who identify as American Indian (including Alaska Native, Eskimo, and Aleut), Asian, Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander, Black, or Latinx. These victims may also be those experiencing language barriers and/or have an undocumented immigration status. Such victims may not access services due to a lack of awareness, concerns about discrimination and bias, previously unhelpful or hurtful responses, cultural and social beliefs, and funding limitations.

This notice of funding opportunity will support development, enhancement, and expansion of culturally specific victim services. In addition, this funding opportunity will support the priority of raising public awareness of victim services, particularly for culturally specific groups.

Cultural factors play a role in “help-seeking” decisions. Individuals from different cultures hold diverse beliefs about help-seeking; some victims who are members of particular racial or ethnic groups are more likely to seek help from their informal support networks, such as family members, friends, and partners, rather than formal support systems of law enforcement, victim service providers, and healthcare professionals.¹ Some cultures or subgroups may hold stigmatized views of formal support services, particularly mental health services. Social pressure in tight-knit ethnic communities may also make it difficult for victims to disclose abuse.² Furthermore, the absence of diversity among service providers and a lack of culturally responsive advocacy and therapy services are barriers to accessing help. Access to interpretation and translation services are barriers to seeking support services, particularly for victims whose second language is English. Limited transportation options and long travel times also are major barriers to seeking and accessing services.³ Lastly, information about which agencies are equipped to provide culturally specific and humble, accessible services or assistance for these victims are scarce or difficult to identify or locate.

¹ El-Khoury, M. Y., Dutton, M. A., Goodman, L. A., Engel, L., Belamaric, R. J., & Murphy, M. (2004). Ethnic differences in battered women’s formal help-seeking strategies: A focus on health, mental health, and spirituality. *Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology*, 10, 383–393. See also McCart et al., 2010. 3 See McCart, Smith, & Sawyer, 2010.

² Sawrikar, P., & Katz, I. (2017). How aware of child sexual abuse (CSA) are ethnic minority communities? A literature review and suggestions for raising awareness in Australia. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 81, 246-260.

³ McCart, Smith, & Sawyer, 2010. Schneider, D. C., Mosqueda, L., Falk, E., & Huba, G. J. (2010). Elder abuse forensic centers. *Journal of Elder Abuse & Neglect*, 22(3-4), 255-274.

This funding may be used to:

- a) Advance racial equity as an essential component of ending sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.
- b) Provide culturally specific services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking.
- c) Strengthen responses to victims of culturally specific groups by providing training to mainstream/traditional victim service, legal/justice system, and/or health care professionals about culturally specific responses to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking.
- d) Raise public awareness of victim services for underserved populations. **This purpose area may only be used in conjunction with purpose area a and/or b.**

2. Program Design

Grant funds must be used to establish, maintain, or expand culturally specific intervention and related assistance for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking, and develop innovative, culturally specific strategies to enhance access to services and resources for victims who face obstacles to using more traditional programs.

Intervention and related assistance may include:

- 24-hour hotline services providing crisis intervention services and referral.
- Accompaniment and advocacy through medical, criminal justice, and social support systems, including medical facilities, police, and court proceedings.
- Crisis intervention, short-term individual and group support services, and comprehensive service coordination and supervision to assist sexual assault victims and family or household members.
- Information and referral to assist the sexual assault victim and family or household members.
- Community-based, culturally specific services and support mechanisms, including outreach activities for underserved communities.
- Development and distribution of materials on issues related to the services described above.

3. Program Requirements

The VAWA Culturally Specific Program supports nonprofit organizations that serve culturally specific communities and have experience in providing sexual assault or domestic violence services. The goal of the Culturally Specific Program is to establish, maintain, and expand sustainable, culturally appropriate services that address the unique needs and challenges of victims of domestic violence or sexual assault from culturally specific communities.

Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. § 20124(b)(2), funds under this program must be used for one or more of the following purposes:

- Working with state and local governments and social service agencies to develop

and enhance effective strategies to provide culturally specific services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking.

- Increasing communities' capacity to provide culturally specific resources and support for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking crimes and their families.
- Strengthening criminal justice interventions, by providing training for law enforcement, prosecution, courts, probation, and correctional facilities on culturally specific responses to domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking.
- Enhancing traditional services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking through the leadership of culturally specific programs offering services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking.
- Working in cooperation with the community to develop education and prevention strategies highlighting culturally specific issues and resources regarding victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking.
- Providing culturally specific programs for children exposed to domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking.
- Providing culturally specific resources and services that address the safety, economic, housing, and workplace needs of victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking, including emergency assistance.
- Examining the dynamics of culture and its impact on victimization and healing.

4. Performance Plan

Information on the following goals must be included in the Performance Plan. The performance plan is in AmpliFund.

- 1) **Milestone:** To track completion of grant milestones.
Example: 150 clients will be served over the course of the grant period.
Example: All staff members will be trained on trauma-informed care.
- 2) **Narrative:** To capture a narrative response.
Example: To ensure all staff are trained on trauma-informed care, we will allow staff to use work time to attend trauma-informed training. We will disseminate dates, times, and locations of free virtual or in-person training throughout the city. Staff who have not received training within three months of the grant period will be contacted and reminded weekly.
- 3) **Numeric:** To track totals achieved.
Example: 90 clients will be referred to external services.
- 4) **Percent Achieved:** To track percentages achieved.
Example: 95% of clients will be assessed for PTSD symptoms.
- 5) **Percent Change:** To track a percentage increase or decrease.
Example: 90% of clients will receive TANF benefits, an increase of 10% over compared to last year's total.

It is recognized that each program may have different needs, goals, and client populations. Below is an example to help you formulate your own Performance Plan. Generate goals that best fit your program.

Goal Title	Required?	Goal Information	Type of Goal	Program's Goal
Goal 1: Provide culturally specific services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking.	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide culturally specific services to [# of victims] of limited English proficiency. • Provide immigration advocacy to [# of victims] • Provide language/translation/interpretation services to [# of victims]. • Provide culturally specific counseling services to [# of victims]. • Provide transportation to [# of victims] 	Numeric, Percent Achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percent of victims served who report knowing more ways to plan for their safety • Percent of victims served who report knowing more about community resources.
Goal 2: Strengthen responses to victims of culturally specific groups by providing training to professionals of mainstream/traditional victim service, social service, legal/justice system, health care, or other community partners about culturally specific responses to domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide [# of trainings] to professionals from [organization type or discipline] about cultural diversity and oppression and culturally specific responses to victims. • Train [# of people] from [organization type or discipline] about cultural diversity and oppression and culturally specific responses to victims 	Percent Achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of trainings. Percent of training attendees demonstrating increased knowledge about cultural diversity and oppression • Percent of people trained. Percent of training attendees demonstrating increased knowledge about culturally specific responses to victims

Funded programs will be required to submit quarterly progress reports that will minimally include information based on the applicant's proposed objectives. For more information on how to create a performance plan template in AmpliFund, please see "Performance Metrics Sample and Instructions" in AmpliFund for additional information.

5. Priorities

This funding opportunity addresses the 2022 ICJIA Ad Hoc Victim Services Committee priorities of funding services to underserved victims and raising public awareness of victim services. Underserved victims are those populations most impacted by violence and who encounter one or more barriers to accessing services. Many underserved victims are unaware of the wide array and efficacy of services available to them. Therefore, awareness efforts should include information on recognizing victimization, impacts, eligibility criteria for services, service options, and service benefits. More resources are also needed to address barriers of victim service access, such as transportation assistance, translation services, and training on culturally and linguistically appropriate care.

6. Evidence-Based Programs or Practices

Applicants are strongly urged to incorporate effective research-based best practice and evidence-informed models, into their program design, when appropriate. Applicants should identify the evidence-based practice or model being proposed for implementation, discuss the research evidence that shows that the practice is effective, discuss the population(s) for which this practice has been shown to be effective, and show that it is appropriate for the proposed target population.

B. Funding Information

1. Award period

Grant awards resulting from this opportunity will have a target period of performance of October 1, 2023, to September 30, 2024 (12 months). Funding to support programming for up to an additional 24 months may be awarded after the initial funding period, contingent upon satisfactory performance and availability of funds. The grant program funding period will not exceed 36 months.

2. Available Funds

A total of \$300,000 in funding is available through this solicitation. Applicants may request a minimum of \$75,000 and a maximum of \$100,000 in grant funding.

Agreements that result from this funding opportunity are contingent upon and subject to the availability of funds.

C. Eligibility Information

Before applying for any grant, all entities must be registered through the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) Grantee Portal at www.grants.illinois.gov/portal. During the open application period, a pre-qualification verification is performed in the GATA Implementation Website, this includes checking SAM.gov registration, Illinois Secretary of State standing, and status on Illinois Stop Payment List. The GATA Portal will indicate a “Good Standing” status or state the issue and steps on how to achieve “Good Standing”.

Applicants are also required to submit a financial and administrative risk assessment utilizing an Internal Controls Questionnaire (ICQ) for state fiscal year 24 before execution of grant agreement and obtain approval from their cognizant agencies before execution of the grant agreement. Delay in obtaining ICQ approval will result in a delay in grant execution.

1. Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants are private nonprofit organizations for which the primary purpose of the organization is to provide culturally specific services to one or more of the following racial and ethnic communities: American Indians (including Alaska Natives, Eskimos, and Aleuts), Asians, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders, Blacks, and Latinx.

Note: Providing culturally specific services must be the primary purpose of the applicant organization. Organizations that serve all victims while maintaining a culturally specific programming division within that organization would not be eligible. Eligible applicants have documented organizational experience in the area of sexual assault intervention or domestic violence. They will also have expertise in the development of community-based, linguistically, and culturally specific outreach and intervention services relevant for the specific communities to whom assistance would be provided.

Applicants must be pre-qualified to do business with the State of Illinois.

2. Cost Sharing or Matching

No cost-sharing or match requirement is associated with this opportunity.

3. Indirect Cost Rate

In order to charge indirect costs to a grant, the applicant organization must either have an annually negotiated indirect cost rate agreement (NICRA) or elect to use a standard *de minimis* rate. There are three types of allowable indirect cost rates:

- a) Federally Negotiated Rate. Organizations that receive direct federal funding, may have an indirect cost rate that was negotiated with the Federal Cognizant Agency. Illinois will accept the federally negotiated rate.
- b) State Negotiated Rate. The organization may negotiate an indirect cost rate with the State of Illinois if they do not have a Federally Negotiated Rate. If an organization has not previously established an indirect cost rate, an indirect cost rate proposal must

be submitted through the State of Illinois' centralized indirect cost rate system no later than three months after receipt of a Notice of State Award (NOSA). If an organization previously established an indirect cost rate, the organization must annually submit a new indirect cost proposal through the centralized indirect cost rate system within the earlier of: six (6) months after the close of the grantee's fiscal year; and three (3) months of the notice of award.

- c) *De Minimis Rate*. An organization that has never negotiated an indirect cost rate with the Federal Government or the State of Illinois is eligible to elect a *de minimis* rate of 10% of modified total direct cost (MTDC). Once established, the *de minimis* Rate may be used indefinitely. The State of Illinois must verify the calculation of the MTDC annually in order to accept the *de minimis* rate.

Grant fund recipients are required to complete the indirect cost rate proposal process every fiscal year. If you plan to include indirect costs in your budget, please select your indirect cost rate through the GATA Grantee portal prior to submitting your grant documents to ICJIA.

Grantees have discretion and can elect to waive payment for indirect costs. Grantees that elect to waive payments for indirect costs cannot be reimbursed for indirect costs. The organization must record an election to "Waive Indirect Costs" into the GATA Grantee Portal. Indirect Cost election must be completed annually, for every entity's fiscal year. More information regarding the indirect cost election process can be found [here](#).

D. Application and Submission Information

1. Accessing Application Package

Paper copies of the application materials may be requested from Shataun Hailey by calling (312) 793-8550; writing Shataun Hailey at 60 E Van Buren, Suite 650, Chicago, Illinois 60605; via Telephone Device for the Deaf (TDD) (312) 793-4170 or by email at CJA.CS2023@Illinois.gov. Application materials, however, must be submitted via the [AmpliFund](#) grant management system.

2. Content and Form of Application Submission

Applications must be submitted in AmpliFund. All required forms are located in the AmpliFund grant management system and must be completed in AmpliFund.

3. Unique Entity Identification Number (UEI) and System for Award Management (SAM)

Applicants are required to:⁴

⁴ Exempt from these requirements are individuals or agencies under 2 CFR § 25.110(b) or (c) and those with an exception approved by the federal or state awarding agency under 2 CFR § 25.110(d).

- a) Be registered in SAM before submitting its application. To establish a SAM registration, go to <http://www.SAM.gov/SAM>.
- b) Provide a valid Unique Entity Identification Number. Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) is now the primary means of identifying entities registered for federal awards government-wide in the [System for Award Management \(SAM\)](#).

If your entity is already registered in SAM, it has been assigned a UEI. Instructions regarding the migration from DUNS to UEI have been posted in the [GATA website](#).

- c) Continue to maintain an active SAM registration with current information while it has an active award or application under consideration. ICJIA may not make a federal pass-through or state award to an applicant until the applicant has complied with all applicable SAM requirements. If an applicant has not fully complied with the requirements by the time ICJIA is ready to make an award, ICJIA may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award, and may use that determination as a basis for making a state award to another applicant.

4. Submission Dates, Times, and Method

Completed application materials must be received by and in possession of the AmpliFund grant management system by 5:00 p.m., June 30, 2023, to be considered for funding. Applications must be completed and submitted via [AmpliFund](#). Upon receipt, an automated confirmation will be emailed. Proposals will not be accepted by email, mail, fax, or in person. AmpliFund will not permit late submissions. Agencies are encouraged to submit their applications 24-72 hours in advance of the deadline to avoid unforeseen technical difficulties. Technical difficulties with the grant management system should be reported immediately to ICJIA at CJA.CS2023@Illinois.gov.

5. Application Questions

Questions may be submitted via email at CJA.CS2023@Illinois.gov. The deadline for submitted questions is 5:00 p.m. (CST) on June 22, 2023. All substantive questions and responses will be posted on the ICJIA website at <https://icjia.illinois.gov/gata> and on the [AmpliFund](#). Due to the competitive nature of this solicitation, applicants may not discuss the opportunity directly with any ICJIA employee other than via this email address CJA.CS2023@Illinois.gov.

6. Funding Restrictions

- a) Federal Financial Guide. Applicants must follow the current edition of the Department of Justice Grants Financial Guide which details allowable and unallowable costs is available at: https://ojp.gov/financialguide/doj/pdfs/DOJ_FinancialGuide.pdf. Costs may be determined to be unallowable even if not expressly prohibited in the Federal Financial Guide.

b) Prohibited Uses. The following is a non-exhaustive list of services, activities, goods, and other costs that cannot be supported through this NOFO:

- Land acquisition
- New construction
- A renovation, lease, or any other proposed use of a building or facility that will either result in a change in its basic prior use or significantly change its size
- Minor renovation or remodeling of a property either listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places or located within a 100-year flood plain
- Implementation of a new program involving the use of chemicals
- Capital expenditures
- Fundraising activities
- Most food and beverage costs
- Lobbying

Prohibiting Support for Activities that Compromise Victim Safety and Recovery and Undermine Offender Accountability

The following activities have been found to jeopardize victim safety, deter or prevent physical or emotional healing for victims, or allow those who committed a crime to escape responsibility for

their actions and, therefore, may not be supported with VAWA Program Funding:

- Procedures or policies that exclude victims from receiving safe shelter, advocacy services, counseling, and other assistance based on their actual or perceived sex, age, immigration status, race, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, mental health condition, physical health condition, criminal record, work in the sex industry, or the age and/or gender of their children.
- Procedures or policies that compromise the confidentiality of information and/or privacy of persons receiving OVW-funded services.
- Procedures or policies that require victims to take certain actions (e.g., seek an order of protection, receive counseling, participate in couples' counseling or mediation, report to law enforcement, seek civil or criminal remedies, etc.) in order to receive services.
- Procedures or policies that fail to include conducting safety planning with victims.
- Project design and budget that fail to account for the access needs of participants with disabilities and participants who have limited English proficiency or who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- The use of pre-trial diversion programs without prior OVW review and approval of the program or the automatic placement of offenders in such programs.
- Couples counseling, family counseling, or any other manner or joint victim-offender counseling as a routine or required response to domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking, or in situations

in which child sexual abuse is alleged.

- Offering or ordering anger management programs for offenders as a substitute for batterer's intervention programs.
- Policies or procedures that require victims to report the crime to law enforcement, participate in the criminal justice system, or seek a protection or restraining order against the offender, and penalize them for failing to do so.
- Procedures or policies that deny victims and non-abusing parents or caretakers and their children access to services based on their involvement with the perpetrator.
- Requiring survivors to meet restrictive conditions in order to receive services (e.g. background checks of victims; clinical evaluations to determine eligibility for services; etc.) or other screening processes that elicit information that is not necessary for services, such as questions about immigration status, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, physical or mental health, and work or criminal history that the service provider does not need to know about to provide services safely.
- Relying on batterer intervention programs that do not use court monitoring to hold batterers accountable for their behavior.
- Policies and procedures that fail to account for the physical safety of victims.
- Enforcing or promoting nuisance abatement ordinances, crime-free housing ordinances, or crime-free lease addenda (often associated with crime-free housing programs) that require or encourage the eviction of tenants or residents who may be victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking. See also the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for guidance on how such ordinances and addenda may violate the Fair Housing Act.
- Policies or procedures that require testing of sexual assault forensic evidence in cases where the victim obtained a medical forensic exam but has chosen not to participate in the criminal justice system

c) Allowable expenses. All expenses must be reasonable, necessary, and allocable to the program. Funds shall be used only to provide culturally specific services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking. Activities unrelated or only tangentially related to the provision of direct services to victims are not eligible for support.

d) Pre-Award Costs. **No costs incurred before the start date of the grant agreement may be charged to awards resulting from this funding opportunity.**

e) Pre-approvals. Prior approvals may affect project timelines. Submission of materials for ICJIA approval should be incorporated into the application Implementation Schedules. ICJIA may require prior approval of the following:

- Out-of-state travel
- Certain Requests for Proposals, procurements, and sub-contracts

- Conference, meeting, and training costs
- f) State Travel Guidelines. travel costs charged to ICJIA must conform to State Travel Guidelines, found here: <https://www2.illinois.gov/cms/Employees/travel/Pages/TravelReimbursement.aspx>. Out-of-state hotel rates are based on the General Service Administration (GSA) guidelines found here: <https://www.gsa.gov/travel/plan-book/per-diem-rates>. Applicant agencies with lower cost travel guidelines than the State of Illinois must use those lower rates.
- g) Supplanting. Supplanting is to deliberately reduce state or local funds because of the existence of federal funds. Supplanting rules do not apply to not-for-profit agencies. Federal funds must be used to supplement existing state and local funds for program activities and must not replace those funds that have been appropriated for the same purpose. Supplanting will be the subject of application review, as well as pre-award review, post-award monitoring, and audit. If there is a potential presence of supplanting, the applicant or grantee will be required to supply documentation demonstrating that the reduction in non-federal resources occurred for reasons other than the receipt or expected receipt of federal funds. For certain programs, a written certification may be requested by the awarding agency or recipient agency stating that federal funds will not be used to supplant state or local funds. If funds will be used for the expansion of an already implemented program, applicants must explain how proposed activities will supplement—not supplant— current program activities and staff positions.
- Grant funds must be used to supplement existing funds for program activities and must not replace those funds that have been appropriated for the same purpose. If grant funds will be used for the expansion of an existing program, applicants must explain how proposed activities will supplement, not supplant, current program activities and staff positions. Agencies may not deliberately reduce governmental funds because of the existence of these grant funds. A written certification may be requested by ICJIA stating that these funds will not be used to supplant other state, local, federal, or other funds.
- Supplanting will be the subject of application review, as well as pre-award review, post-award monitoring, and audit. If there is a potential presence of supplanting, the applicant or grantee will be required to supply documentation demonstrating that the reduction in non-federal resources occurred for reasons other than the receipt or expected receipt of federal funds
- h) Proposed Subawards and Subcontracts. Applicants may propose to enter into subawards or subcontracts under this award, each of which involve different rules and applicant responsibilities. A subaward carries out a portion of the grant agreement while a contract is often for obtaining goods and services for the grantee's own use. (44 Ill. Admin Code 7000.240). If a third party will provide some of the essential services or develop or modify a product that the applicant has committed to provide

or produce, ICJIA may consider the agreement with the third party a subaward for purposes of grant administration.

Applicants must classify each expense in the contractual budget as a subaward or subcontract. The substance of the agreement, not the title or structure of the agreement, will determine whether it is a subaward of a subcontract. Applicants are advised to use the “Checklist for Contractor/Subrecipient Determinations” available at the GATA Resource Library for guidance:

<https://www.illinois.gov/sites/gata/pages/resourcelibrary.aspx>.

Applicants are required to justify their use of subawards and explain their capacity to serve as “pass-through” entities in the program narrative. Applicants will monitor subaward compliance with grant terms, applicable federal and state law including the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Award, 2 C.F.R. Part 200, GATA, and ICJIA policies. Proposed subawards must be identified, if possible, and their roles described in both the program and budget narratives.

For procurement contracts, applicants are encouraged to promote free and open competition in awarding contracts. All subcontracts must comply with federal and state requirements.

7. Requirement Prior to Submitting the Application

1. All Applicants must register their organization at the Illinois Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) Grantee Portal: <https://grants.illinois.gov/portal/> .
2. To submit an application, approved individuals for an organization must be a registered via the GATA Grantee GATA Portal and identified as an AmpliFund user.

Applicant Technical Assistance Recording. Applicants are advised to view the following technical assistance recordings prior to application submission.

All recordings are located on the [ICJIA YouTube channel](#).

- [Register in the GATA Grantee Portal](#)
- [Creating a GATA Grantee User Account](#)
- [Register in AmpliFund](#)
- [Complete the application in AmpliFund](#)
- [Getting to know GATA and the GATA Grantee Portal](#)
- Learn about the Online Self-paced Grant Course: [YOUR RECIPE FOR GRANT SUCCESS](#)

E. Application Review Information

1. Criteria

Application materials must address all components of this NOFO and demonstrate both a need for the program and an ability to successfully implement the program. Evaluation criteria must include at a minimum the following criteria categories:

- Need: Identification of community partners, facts, and evidence that demonstrate the proposal supports the grant program purpose.
- Capacity: The ability of an entity to execute the grant project according to project requirements.
- Quality: The totality of features and characteristics of a service, project, or product that indicated the applicant's ability to satisfy the requirements of the grant program.
- Other: Societal impact, economic impact, cost effectiveness, sustainability, and grant-specific criteria.

Application materials must address all components of this NOFO and demonstrate both a need for the program and an ability to successfully implement the program. Reviewers will score applications based on completeness, clear and detailed responses to program narrative questions, and inclusion of all mandatory program elements as well as past performance history and/or financial standing with ICJIA. The applicant must demonstrate that costs are reasonable, necessary, and allowable.

The total number of points available is 100.

Scoring Criteria	Possible Points
Summary of the Program:	10
1. Response clearly describes the proposed program design & lists the culturally specific populations the program will serve. If the applicant proposes raising public awareness for culturally specific services, response identified specific awareness activities to be undertaken.	
Statement of the Problem:	20
2. Response clearly describes the issues that the proposed program is designed to address, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Strengths and challenges of the population to be served. •The agency's history and expertise in the providing culturally specific services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking or human trafficking. 	
Project Management:	10
3. Response clearly describes the applicant agency's fiscal experience and capacity to manage grants. This response includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Agencies prior experience managing grants similar to this funding opportunity. •Total staff dedicated to all victim services at your organization including include titles, duties, primary qualifications, and any mandatory training of staff. 	
Project Implementation:	20
4. Response clearly describes how the applicant will implement this program and includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Who will oversee implementation of this project? •A description of the agency's plans for program sustainability once 	

this funding opportunity has ended and includes specific activities that address sustainability.	
Goals and Performance Metrics:	20
Applicant has completed the Goals and Performance Metrics for the proposed program in the AmpliFund grant management system. The metrics should measure meaningful, tangible changes resulting from program implementation or expansion for the designated period of performance.	
Budget Detail:	20
Budgeted items are cost-effective in relation to the proposed activities.	
Narrative is complete for all line items, clearly detailing how the applicant arrived at and calculated the budget amounts.	
Total Possible Points	100

2. Review and Selection Process

All applications will be screened for completeness including GATA pre-qualification and ICQ submission for the current state fiscal year. Applications that are not complete will not be reviewed. ICJIA reserves the right to reject incomplete proposals, proposals that include unallowable activities, proposals that do not meet eligibility or program requirements, and proposals that are otherwise unsatisfactory.

ICJIA may invite applicants to answer clarifying questions and modify budgets that include unallowable or unreasonable costs. NOFO application budgets will be reviewed for allowability, completeness, and cost-effectiveness. ICJIA will perform an in-depth budget review of all grants awarded and may require budget modifications that do not materially change the nature of the program.

Successful applicants whose applications contained unallowable or unreasonable costs may have their awards reduced by the total amount of those costs. Upon applicant acceptance of the grant award, announcement of the grant award shall be published by ICJIA to the GATA portal. Review team recommendations will be forwarded to Budget Committee for approval. Applicants will be notified of the Budget Committee's decision.

3. Anticipated Announcement and State Award Dates

Task	Date
NOFO Posted	June 1, 2023
Technical Assistance Session	10:00 A.M. Tuesday, June 6, 2023
NOFO question submission deadline	June 22, 2023
Applications due	5:00 p.m. CST, June 30, 2023

Budget Committee review/approval of recommended designations	August 17, 2023
Performance Period	October 1, 2023, to September 30, 2024

4. Appeal Process

Unsuccessful applicants may request a formal appeal of the evaluation process. Evaluation scores and funding determinations may not be contested and will not be considered by ICJIA's Appeals Review Officer. The appeal must be via email and submitted within 14 calendar days after either the date the grant award notice is published or receipt of a Funding Opportunity Declination Letter from ICJIA, whichever comes first. The written appeal must include, at a minimum, the following:

- Statement indicating a request for a formal appeal;
- The name and address of the appealing party;
- Identification of the grant program; and
- A statement of reason for the appeal.

Please send your appeal to:

Appeals Review Officer
 Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority
CJA.ARO@Illinois.gov

ICJIA will acknowledge receipt of the appeal within 14 calendar days. ICJIA will respond to the appeal, in writing, within 60 days or provide an explanation as to why more time is required. ICJIA will resolve the appeal via written determination, which will include:

- Review of the appeal.
- Appeal determination.
- Rationale for the determination.
- Standard description of the appeal review process and criteria.

5. Debriefing Process

Unsuccessful applicants may request a debriefing for feedback to improve future applications. Debriefings include written advice on the strengths and weaknesses of applications using the evaluation and review criteria.

Requests for debriefings must be made via email and submitted within seven calendar days after receipt of notice. Debriefing requests will not be granted if there is an active appeal, administrative action, or court proceeding. The written debriefing requests shall include:

- The name and address of the requesting party.

- Identification of grant program.
- Reasons for the debrief request.

Please send requests to:

Shataun Hailey
Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority
CJA.CS2023@Illinois.gov

F. Award Administration Information

1. State Award Notices

The ICJIA Budget Committee is scheduled to review and approve designations in August, 2023.

The following documents must be submitted prior to the execution of an agreement:

- Civil Rights Compliance Questionnaire
- Equal Employment Opportunity and Civil Rights Certification
- Lobbying and Debarment certification

2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

In addition to implementing the funded project consistent with the approved project proposal and budget, agencies selected for funding must comply with applicable grant terms and conditions and other legal requirements, including the 34 U.S.C. § 20124, GATA, and the U.S. Department of Justice Grants Financial Guide.

Additional programmatic and administrative special conditions may be required.

3. Reporting

Recipients must submit periodic financial reports, periodic performance reports, final financial and final performance reports, and, if applicable, an audit report in accordance with the 2 CFR Part 200 Uniform Requirements. Future awards and fund drawdowns may be withheld if reports are delinquent.

G. State Awarding Agency Contact(s)

For questions and technical assistance regarding application submission, contact:

Shataun Hailey
Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority
CJA.CS2023@Illinois.gov

H. Other Information

The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) is a state agency dedicated to improving the administration of criminal justice. ICJIA brings together key leaders from the justice system and the public to identify critical issues facing the criminal justice system in Illinois, and to propose and evaluate policies, programs, and legislation that address those issues. The statutory responsibilities of ICJIA fit into four areas: grants administration; research and analysis; policy and planning; and information systems and technology.

Section 7 of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Act grants ICJIA authority “to apply for, receive, establish priorities for, allocate, disburse, and spend grants of funds that are made available by and received on or after January 1, 1983 from private sources or from the United States pursuant to the federal Crime Control Act of 1973, as amended, and similar federal legislation, and to enter into agreements with the United States government to further the purposes of this Act, or as may be required as a condition of obtaining federal funds” and “to receive, expend, and account for such funds of the State of Illinois as may be made available to further the purposes of this Act.” (20 ILCS 3930/7(k), (l))

Neither the State of Illinois nor ICJIA are obligated to make any award as a result of this announcement. The ICJIA Executive Director or designee has sole authority to bind ICJIA to the expenditure of funds through the execution of grant agreements.

This application is subject to the Illinois Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Any information that the applicant believes should be exempt under FOIA should clearly highlight the information that is exempt, and the basis of the exemption.

For reference only. Responses must be submitted via AmpliFund. Emailed, mailed, and hand-delivered applications will not be accepted.

**Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)
VAWA – Culturally Specific 2023
PROGRAM NARRATIVE
NOFO # 1744-2498**

Program narrative must be submitted via AmpliFund. This document is for reference only. Applicants are highly encouraged to review the questions and complete a response on a separate document, then log into AmpliFund and “copy & paste” the response in the appropriate section.

The AmpliFund system times out after 20 minutes of inactivity. Clicking “save and continue” is as you complete your work.

Summary of the Program – 10 Points

1. Describe the proposed program design and list the culturally specific populations that your program will serve. If you are also including raising public awareness of victim services for culturally specific populations, be sure to describe proposed public awareness activities.

Statement of the Problem – 20 Points

2. Describe the issues that the proposed program is designed to address, including:
- Strengths and challenges of the population to be served.
 - Your agency’s history and expertise in the providing culturally specific services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking or human trafficking.

Project Management – 10 Points

3. Describe your agency’s fiscal experience and capacity to manage grants. Include:
- Agencies prior experience managing grants similar to this funding opportunity.
 - Total staff dedicated to all victim services at your organization. Be sure to include their titles, duties, primary qualifications, and any mandatory training of staff.

Project Implementation – 20 Points

4. Describe how your organization will implement the proposed program and include:
- Who will oversee implementation of this project?
 - Your agency’s plan for program sustainability once this funding opportunity has ended and include specific activities that address sustainability.

For reference only. Responses must be submitted via AmpliFund. Emailed, mailed, and hand-delivered applications will not be accepted.

Goals, and Performance Metrics – 20 Points

Please complete the Goals and Performance Metrics for your proposed program in the AmpliFund grant management system. Describe a 12-month program. The metrics should measure meaningful, tangible changes resulting from program implementation or expansion for the designated period of performance.

Goal Title	Required?	Goal Information	Type of Goal	Program's Goal
Goal 1: Provide culturally specific services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking.	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide culturally specific services to [# of victims] of limited English proficiency. • Provide immigration advocacy to [# of victims] • Provide language/translation/interpretation services to [# of victims]. • Provide culturally specific counseling services to [# of victims]. • Provide transportation to [# of victims] 	Numeric, Percent Achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percent of victims served who report knowing more ways to plan for their safety • Percent of victims served who report knowing more about community resources.
Goal 2: Strengthen responses to victims of culturally specific groups by providing training to professionals of mainstream/traditional victim service, social service, legal/justice system, health care, or other community partners about culturally specific responses to domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide [# of trainings] to professionals from [organization type or discipline] about cultural diversity and oppression and culturally specific responses to victims. • Train [# of people] from [organization type or discipline] about cultural diversity and oppression and culturally specific responses to victims 	Numeric, Percent Achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of people trained. Number of training attendees demonstrating increased knowledge about cultural diversity and oppression • Number of people trained. Number of training attendees demonstrating increased knowledge about culturally specific responses to victims

Budget Detail and Budget Narrative – 20 Points (Completed in AmpliFund)

Please complete the budget and the budget narrative for your proposed program in the AmpliFund grant management system. Describe a 12-month program; both the budget and budget narrative should reflect 12 months of programming.

For reference only. Responses must be submitted via AmpliFund. Emailed, mailed, and hand-delivered applications will not be accepted.

Application Submission via AmpliFund

The following process is required:

Step 1: Applicants must register at the Illinois Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) Grantee Portal: <https://grants.illinois.gov/portal/>.

Step 2: Applying Organizations must identify an individual(s) who will submit the application via AmpliFund, this person will serve as the Primary Contact for this application. However, more than one individual can have access to and complete components of the application via AmpliFund. The Primary Contact must submit the applications, including attachments, via Amplifund. To apply, go to: <https://il.amplifund.com/Public/Opportunities/Details/1a1cf131-2f7d-4b61-bc67-ecc22f8c350a>

To be considered for funding, completed applications must be submitted via the above AmpliFund link by the application deadline of 5:00 p.m., June 30, 2023. ICJIA encourages applicants to review this Technical Assistance Recording for more information on how to apply.