

# Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) 2025-2026 Continuation Grant

**Funding Announcement** 

Wisconsin Department of Justice Office of Crime Victim Services

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Office of Crime Victim Services State of Wisconsin Department of Justice

## **Table of Contents**

Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) 2025-2026 Continuation Grant Announcement	
Funding Announcement Description	2
Important Dates	2
Anticipated Funding Amount and Project Period	2
Eligibility	2
Match/Cost Sharing Requirement	
Non-supplantation	
VOCA 2025-2026 Continuation Grant Description	3
Application Components	4
Application Registration Requirements	8
Application Review and Award Criteria	9
Post-Award Special Conditions/Reporting Requirements	9



Office of Crime Victim Services State of Wisconsin Department of Justice

#### Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) 2025-2026 Continuation Grant Announcement

#### **Funding Announcement Description**

Non-competitive continuation funding under the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) to support the provision of direct services to victims of crime. Federal VOCA funding is awarded annually to victim service providers by the Wisconsin Department of Justice (WI DOJ) Office of Crime Victim Services (OCVS).

#### **Important Dates**

Application Due Date: October 10, 2025 Project Start Date: October 1, 2025 Project End Date: September 30, 2026

#### **Anticipated Funding Amount and Project Period**

Current VOCA subgrantees may apply for continuation funding at their current level of funding for one year. OCVS will award a total of \$13 million in VOCA funding for the October 1, 2025 - September 30, 2026 project period.

#### Eligibility

This funding opportunity is non-competitive. Only agencies that <u>currently receive VOCA</u> funds are eligible to apply for the same amount awarded in 2024-2025.

#### Match/Cost Sharing Requirement

Matching or cost sharing means the portion of project costs not paid by Federal funds (unless otherwise authorized by Federal statute). See <u>2 C.F.R. § 200.1</u> (definition of "cost sharing or matching").

If awarded, agencies are required to provide 20% match of the total VOCA project cost or may apply for a match waiver. Native American tribes on Indian Reservations are not required to provide match.

There are two kinds of match:



Office of Crime Victim Services State of Wisconsin Department of Justice

Cash Match – includes cash spent for project-related costs. An allowable cash match must include costs which are allowable with Federal funds.

In-Kind – includes volunteers providing direct services or donations of expendable equipment, office supplies, workshop or classroom materials, workspace, or the monetary value of time contributed by professionals and technical personnel and other skilled and unskilled labor.

The applicant must use volunteers unless OCVS determines there is a compelling reason to waive this requirement. Volunteer time used as match must be for direct victim services and may not include activities ineligible to be directly funded by VOCA.

For more information about match, visit this link from the U.S. Department of Justice (US DOJ) Grants Financial Management Guide.

#### Non-supplantation

Federal funds must be used to supplement existing state and local government funds for program activities and must <u>not supplant</u> those funds that have been appropriated for the same purposes. Violations may result in penalties, such as suspension of current and future funds under this program, suspension or debarment from federal grants, repayment of monies provided under a grant, and civil and/or criminal penalties.

#### VOCA 2025-2026 Continuation Grant Description

The VOCA Victim Assistance Formula Grant is awarded annually to WI DOJ from the US DOJ Office for Victims of Crime (OVC). Eligible services include crisis intervention, hotline counseling, individual and/or group therapy, legal advocacy, medical and/or personal advocacy, and emergency legal services essential to meeting immediate threats to health or safety (in conjunction with other services). A more complete description of program purpose areas and activities may be found on the VOCA Grant Program webpage.



Office of Crime Victim Services State of Wisconsin Department of Justice

### **Application Components**

General Instructions: To simplify the application process, we ask that agencies follow the guidelines below.

- When identifying individuals involved in this grant, the project director, financial officer, and signing official must be three separate individuals.
- Use a footer or a header with the agency's name and grant ID number on all attachment pages.
- Include attachments only in the Required Attachments section.
- Please do not type "see attached" as a response in a section; rather cut and paste text from a Word document into the response section in Egrants.
- Use a font size of 11 or larger and preferably an accessible font such as Public Sans or Verdana.
- Please remember that Egrants will timeout each session after 30 minutes, which may result in lost data. It is recommended to write the application outside Egrants and then copy/paste into Egrants.
- To avoid submission errors, only have one Egrants browser window open at a time.
- Only include information and attachments specifically requested in this funding announcement.

All documents are subject to public open records requests.

#### **Submission Instructions**

All applications will be submitted in Egrants. The following sections outline the information required to complete the application.

#### **Main Summary**

The main summary in Egrants asks for information about your agency and the individuals responsible for the application and grant award. There are many required fields on this page so if you encounter problems, please check online help by clicking the floating HELP button.



Office of Crime Victim Services State of Wisconsin Department of Justice

Please note: When identifying individuals involved in this grant, you may not list the same person as project director, financial officer and/or signing official.

- The Financial Officer is the individual responsible for financial activities in your organization while the project director will be overseeing project operations.
- The Project Director will be the main point of contact for all VOCA-related grant communications.
- The Signing Official should be the highest elected official, or a designated proxy by the highest elected official, for the agency.

Please complete the items with an asterisk beside them. Select the corresponding State Senate Districts, Congressional Districts, and State Assembly Districts from the drop-down menus for your agency. It is not necessary to select anything from the School Districts drop down menu.

In the Brief Project Description text box, please describe your project in 150 words or less. A suggested format is included for your convenience:

"[Name of Agency] [identify component, if more than one] will provide [enumerate major categories or types of services] to [description of clients in terms of types of crime(s) and other relevant demographics] in [county(ies)]."

Responses to this section will be used on the DOJ website, cited in DOJ reports, could be mentioned in press releases, and are subject to public records requests. Plain language that clearly describes the intent of the project is most effective.

#### **Project Title**

Please use an identifying title of your project, which includes "VOCA" at the start of the project; for example, "VOCA: Crisis Response 2025-2026" or "VOCA: Sexual Assault Advocacy Program 2025-2026." Do not use a generic title such as "VOCA 2025-2026."

#### Approval Checklist

Answer Yes or No to each question.



Office of Crime Victim Services State of Wisconsin Department of Justice

#### **Performance Measures**

Change section status to "Complete" and save.

#### **Budget Detail**

\*Please use the original 2024-2025 budget or most recently approved budget as your guide. Complete a project budget that covers costs from October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026 using the categories listed below. For each category used, enter a justification that describes how the items in that category will be used during the grant period. It is important that you include specific details for each budget line item, including cost calculations.

Personnel: Provide salary information for employees funded through the grant. For each employee, list position title and name. Only staff that are directly working on the VOCA funded program and activities can be charged to the grant. Do not include contractors in this budget category.

**Employee Benefits:** Employee benefits are for those listed in personnel and should be prorated for the time devoted to the project.

**Staff Development**: To be used for direct staff, supervisors, and administrative staff supporting the VOCA program. Include registration fees and travel expenses in this budget category. All reimbursements will be at current state rates and are subject to change.

**Travel:** Any travel excluding training purposes. Travel must relate to the provision of direct services. All reimbursements will be at current state rates and are subject to change.

Equipment: For tangible non-expendable personal property having a useful life of more than one year and acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more per unit.

Supplies and operating expenses: Includes consumables such as paper, general office supplies, postage, liability insurance, and software. This category can include operating expenses such as rent and utilities.



Office of Crime Victim Services State of Wisconsin Department of Justice

Indirect costs: Include allowable prorated indirect/administrative costs. Indirect costs are the costs of an organization not readily assignable to a particular project but necessary to the operation of the organization and the performance of the project.

Consultants/Contractual: All costs associated with individuals or entities providing services through a contractual agreement must be included in this section. Consultant fees more than \$650 per day or \$81.25 per hour day require additional justification and require approval. The <a href="consultant">consultant</a> and <a href="consultant">contractual</a> checklists can be used as a resource for this type of expense.

Other: For eligible expenses that do not fit into specific categories, such as emergency victim assistance.

#### Project Narrative – Limit to 1200 words

In general, OCVS is familiar with the larger operations of your program, so please limit response to the information requested below. Do not change the overall scope of your VOCA project.

• Have there been any changes to your project since last year's original proposed project? If so, please explain these changes and how they have changed your implementation plan for the project.

#### Audit Requirement

State and local government agencies, institutions of higher education, and other nonprofit organizations are subject to federal audit responsibilities pursuant to Uniform Guidance (2 C.F.R. Subpart F, Audit requirement), as follows:

- An organization-wide financial and compliance audit is required if the organization expends \$1,000,000 or more in federal financial assistance during the organization's fiscal year.
- A copy of the audit report with accompanying management letter must be submitted within 9 months of the close of the organization's fiscal year.



Office of Crime Victim Services State of Wisconsin Department of Justice

 Pro-rated audit costs may only be charged to federal grants if an audit is required pursuant to <u>Uniform Guidance 2 CFR §200.501</u>.

#### **Required Attachments**

Please attach the following documents to your application in this section. If possible, please combine attachments or submit all these documents as one single attachment. Please note that the Subgrant Award Report (also referred to as "VOCA SAR") will be completed by the applicant around the time of award.

- Goals and Objectives Please update and attach the Goals and Objectives for this year's project period.
- Proof of Non-Profit Status for non-profit agencies
- Proof of Certification in SAM.gov

#### If applicable:

- Indirect Cost Rate, either:
  - Federally Approved Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA),
  - or
  - Certification to Apply 15% de Minimis Indirect Cost Rate
- Volunteer Waiver Request Form
- Program Income Certification Applicants that propose imposing fees on clients or generating revenue through VOCA project or staff should complete the <u>VOCA</u> Program Income Certification Form.

#### **Application Registration Requirements**

#### **SAM Entity Registration**

All applicants must have an active account with SAM.gov. This includes having a unique entity identifier (UEI). SAM.gov registration can take several weeks. To register, go to https://sam.gov/entity-registration.

Please note that **SAM registration** is **FREE**. You should never pay for creating a new SAM registration or updating or renewing an existing SAM registration.



Office of Crime Victim Services State of Wisconsin Department of Justice

#### **Egrants Registration**

Applications must be submitted through the DOJ <u>Egrants</u> online grants management system. If you have never used Egrants before, you will need to <u>register</u> for access to the system and complete the <u>self-registration</u> process. On the account registration site, you will have a choice between the DOJ Egrants and WEM Egrants. Please choose DOJ Egrants during this process.

Authorization to access Egrants can take several days depending on registration activity. The DOJ help desk is open Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. If you have any problems using Egrants, please contact the help desk at <a href="mailto:Egrants@doj.state.wi.us">Egrants@doj.state.wi.us</a> or call (608) 267-9068 or toll free at (888) 894-6607 during business hours.

#### **Application Review and Award Criteria**

All applications must be submitted on or before the deadline. OCVS will review each application to determine compliance with the instructions provided in this announcement:

- The applicant is eligible for VOCA funding.
- The overall scope of the project has not changed from the project awarded in FFY 2024-2025.
- The budget does not exceed the original amount applied for in the applicant's FFY 2024-2025 VOCA award.
- Additionally, all encumbrances (if applicable) have been met, and there are no outstanding compliance matters.

#### Post-Award Special Conditions/Reporting Requirements

Agencies awarded funds under this announcement are required to provide regular progress reports. The schedule for reports will be included in the grant award contract. When received, please review all grant award special conditions and Egrants reporting requirements. Signatures will be required in five places. Please note that Federal Debarment and Lobbying forms will be sent with award documents and should be signed and submitted with the award documents.



Office of Crime Victim Services State of Wisconsin Department of Justice

VOCA	Federal Fiscal Year
Fiscal Reports (Egrants)	Quarterly: Jan 30, April 30, July 30, Oct 30
Program Reports (Egrants)	Semi-annual due April 30   Final due Oct 30
Modifications (Egrants)	Final/Fourth Quarter: Due Aug 30
OVC PMTs (OVCPMT Website)	Quarterly: Due Jan 30, April 30, July 30, Oct 30
SAR/Crime Type Allocation (REDCap)	Year End (Dec)   Semi-Annual (End of May)

Fiscal reports – VOCA subgrants are paid on a reimbursement basis. Subgrantees may choose to be reimbursed monthly or quarterly by submitting fiscal reports in Egrants. The decision is solely up to the subgrantee. However, once a frequency of fiscal report is selected for the grant year, it cannot be changed.

Program reports - VOCA subgrants will report on their progress on a semi-annual basis in Egrants. Subgrants will also complete a final report at the end of each grant year.

OVC PMT- VOCA subgrantees are required by the federal awarding agency, US DOJ, to report performance measures (referred to as OVC PMT) on a quarterly basis.

Subgrantee Monitoring - OCVS must assess subgrantee risk posed by applicants before they receive federal funds. Assessment of subgrantee risk determines the level of monitoring performed by OCVS. Further, the levels of risk assigned by OCVS do not preclude a subgrantee from receiving federal funds. In addition to reviewing program complexity and prior adherence to VOCA award terms and conditions (if applicable), OCVS will also review financial complexity and the financial capacity of the agency.