

NEBRASKA CRIME COMMISSION

2026-2027 SASP Grant Program

Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP)
Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)

Request for Applications

RELEASE DATE

Tuesday, April 7, 2026

AWARD PERIOD

July 1, 2026 – December 31, 2027

AMOUNT TO BE AWARDED

\$850,000.00

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Tuesday, May 5, 2026 by 5:00 PM (CDT)

APPLICATION PORTAL

<https://ne.amplifund.com/Public/Opportunities/Details/5942497c-6ad9-4024-b30a-49832ede893e>

CONTACT INFORMATION

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NEBRASKA

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AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

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Program Overview | SASP

The Nebraska Crime Commission (NCC) is pleased to announce it is accepting applications for funding in response to this Request for Applications.

Executive Summary

The federal Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP) was established under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and the Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005. It is the first federally funded program exclusively dedicated to addressing the needs of sexual assault victims through direct intervention and support services.

SASP funding plays a pivotal role in ensuring survivors of sexual assault, regardless of their age, have access to the critical resources they need for recovery and empowerment. This funding is specifically designed to support the establishment, maintenance, and expansion of rape crisis centers and other essential programs that directly serve victims of sexual assault. These funds are made available to non-profit, nongovernmental organizations and tribal programs, ensuring that communities statewide can address the complex needs of sexual assault survivors effectively. You can learn more about VAWA federal regulations at the following links:

<https://www.justice.gov/ovw/sexual-assault-services-formula-grant-program-sasp>

<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-28/chapter-I/part-90>

Key Dates and Times

Dates/times are subject to change. Updates will be posted on the NCC Website.

NCC releases Request for Applications	April 7, 2026
NCC application Office Hours	TBA
Applications due to NCC by 5:00 PM CT	Tuesday, May 5, 2026
NCC conducts Staff Review	May 2026
Commission Funding Panel Review	Friday, May 15, 2026
NCC sends funding determination letters	May 29, 2026
Award contingencies due to NCC	June 12, 2026
NCC sends grant awards for signature	June 2026
Signed award due to NCC	June 2026
Grant projects begin	Wednesday, July 1, 2026

Availability of Funds

The NCC will sub-award up to **\$850,000 (over 18 months)** to eligible agencies. Funding amounts will be based on an organization's ability to identify unmet needs and demonstrate a clear program plan that effectively addresses those needs. Applications should align with NCC funding priorities and the six federal SASP purpose areas. This Request for Applications (RFA) and Awards issued under this grant program are subject to the availability of funding and any changes or additional requirements that may be imposed by the agency or law. In addition, nothing in this RFA creates a right or benefit – substantive or procedural – enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States of America, the State of Nebraska, the Nebraska Crime Commission, or any departments, agencies, entities, officers, employees, agencies, or any other person working in good faith to carry out this program.

Applicant Eligibility

To qualify for SASP funding under the SAS Formula Program, programs must meet specific eligibility criteria focused on supporting survivors of sexual assault. Rape Crisis Centers seeking funding must meet the program standards developed by the Nebraska Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence and Nebraska's Domestic and Sexual Violence Programs, ensuring high-quality and consistent support for survivors. Culturally specific non-profit organizations offering tailored services to individuals impacted by sexual assault are also eligible, as are tribal programs and projects specifically dedicated to assisting survivors. Importantly, all programs must be distinctly geared toward providing services specifically for sexual assault survivors.

- **Rape Crisis Centers and other Nonprofit Organizations, Nongovernmental Organizations or Tribal Programs** that provide direct intervention and related assistance to victims of sexual assault and their families, without regard to age.
 - The term "rape crisis center" means a nonprofit, nongovernmental, or tribal organization, or governmental entity in a state other than a territory that provides intervention and related assistance to victims of sexual assault without regard to their age. In the case of a governmental entity, the entity may not be part of the criminal justice system (such as a law enforcement agency) and must be able to offer a comparable level of confidentiality as a nonprofit entity that provides similar victim services. See [34 USC § 12291\(a\)\(30\)](#).

Additional Eligibility Information

- **Faith-Based Organizations** – As outlined in [28 CFR 38](#), faith-based organizations that applies for, or participates in, a social service program supported with Federal financial assistance may retain its independence and may continue to carry out its mission, including the definition, development, practice, and expression of its religious beliefs, provided that it does not use federal funds to support or engage in any explicitly religious activities, including activities that involve overt religious content such as worship, religious instruction, or proselytization.
 - Faith-based organizations may apply for this award on the same basis as any other organization. NCC will not discriminate for or against an organization in the selection of recipients, on the basis of the organization's religious character, motives, or affiliation, or lack thereof, or on the basis of conduct that would not be considered grounds to favor or disfavor a similarly situated secular organization.
- **Confidentiality assessment and assurances.** Grantees and subrecipients are required to document their compliance with the requirements of this paragraph. All applicants for Office on Violence Against Women funding are required to submit a signed acknowledgement form, indicating that they have notice that, if awarded funds, they will be required to comply with the provisions of this paragraph, will mandate that subrecipients, if any, comply with this provision, and will create and maintain documentation of compliance, such as policies and procedures for release of victim information, and will mandate that subrecipients, if any, will do so as well. See [34 USC § 12291\(b\)\(2\)](#).
- **Victim eligibility for services.** Victim eligibility for direct services is not dependent on the victim's immigration status.
- **Nonexclusively.** Nothing in this RFA shall be construed to prohibit male victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking from receiving benefits and services.
- **NIBRS Reporting** – Applicants from governmental agencies (at any level), must be in compliance with the Uniform Crime Reporting requirements referenced in [Neb Rev Stat §81-1426](#) and [78 Neb. Admin. Code, Ch. 5](#). Uniform Crime Reporting is conducted via the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS).

- Agencies that have not been in compliance in the most recent 6 reporting months, must provide a plan to come into compliance before the start of the grant project.
- Agencies that are not in compliance with NCC reporting requirements for NIBRS, may be deemed ineligible for grant funding.
- **NEVCAP & PO VNS Participation** – Applicants from governmental agencies (at any level), must be in compliance with any applicable data entry requirements of Nebraska Victims of Crime Alert Portal (NEVCAP) & Protection Order Victim Notification System (PO VNS) victim alert systems.
 - Agencies that are not participating with NCC victim alert practices via NEVCAP & PO VNS, may be deemed ineligible for grant funding.

Applicant Eligibility Screening Form

In addition to the application as a whole, the NCC *Applicant Eligibility Screening Form* will be used to assist NCC in evaluating applicant eligibility to receive funding. All applicants must complete this form and attach the signed form to their application.

Program Description | SASP Grant Program

Statutory Authority

The Nebraska Crime Commission (NCC) is the State Administering Agency for Federal VAWA Formula Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP). Statutory Authority [34 USC §12511](#).

Information about NCC and its various grants and other resources can be found at <https://ncc.nebraska.gov/>.

Purpose

SASP funds are solely dedicated to the provision of direct intervention and related assistance to help victims and survivors of sexual assault heal from the trauma of sexual violence.

As defined by the National Sexual Violence Resource Center, sexual violence is a range of sexualized behaviors that involve contact and non-contact. Sexual violence is different from domestic and dating violence. Whereas domestic/dating violence is defined by a type of relationship, sexual violence is defined by unwanted behaviors. Like other forms of violence, sexual violence impacts all gender types and ages. Perpetrators can be relatives, acquaintances (i.e., significant other, friend, co-worker, neighbor, coach, teacher, or religious leader) or strangers. For many survivors, healing may require assistance from survivor-centered social service agencies skilled in healing-centered engagement and strengths-based victim services. To effectively respond to the unique issues and concerns presented by victims and survivors of sexual assault, meaningful services must be made available to anyone, regardless of age, and with the capacity to address needs as they arise across the lifespan. These include programs and services such as rape crisis centers, dual programs offering both domestic and sexual violence intervention services, 24-hour sexual assault hotlines, crisis intervention services, support groups and healing circles, counseling/therapy, innovative support services, and medical and criminal justice accompaniment.

Purpose Areas

The purpose of SASP funding is to support the establishment, maintenance, and expansion of rape crisis centers and other nongovernmental or Tribal programs and projects to assist to individuals who have been victimized by sexual assault, regardless of their age. See [34 USC §12511\(b\)\(1\)](#).

As defined in [34 USC §12511\(a\)\(1\)](#), funds under this program must be used for one or more of the following purposes:

To provide intervention, advocacy, accompaniment, support services, and related assistance to:

- Adult, youth, and child victims of sexual assault,
- Family and household members of such victims, and
- Individuals collaterally affected by the victimization, excluding the perpetrator.

SASP funding supports six key purpose areas, and eligible programs must address at least one of the following:

1. **24-hour hotline services** that provide crisis intervention and referrals.
2. **Accompaniment and advocacy** through medical, criminal justice, and social support systems, including support during medical examinations, interactions with law enforcement, and court proceedings.
3. **Crisis intervention, short-term individual and group support services, direct payments, and comprehensive service coordination** to assist victims of sexual assault, as well as their family or household members.
4. **Information and referral services** to aid sexual assault victims and their family or household members.

5. **Community-based, culturally specific services** and support mechanisms, including outreach initiatives targeting underserved communities.
6. **Development and distribution of educational materials** related to the services outlined above.

These purpose areas ensure that SASP funding is used to provide comprehensive, survivor-centered services that empower individuals and communities while addressing the needs of those impacted by sexual assault.

Federal Priorities

The US Department of Justice encourages states to develop and support projects, to the extent consistent with the program’s authorizing statute, that substantively address one or more of the priorities listed below:

1. Measures to combat human trafficking and transnational crime, particularly crimes linked to illegal immigration and cartel operations, that support safety and justice for trafficking victims who have also suffered domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and/or stalking;
2. Projects to provide victim services, especially housing, and improve law enforcement response in rural and remote areas, Tribal nations, and small towns that often lack resources to effectively combat domestic violence and sexual assault and

Program Financial and Performance Reporting Requirements

Reporting Periods

Reporting Period	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Final
Months	July-September	October-December	January-March	April-June	July-September	October-December	July-December
Due Date	October 15	January 15	April 15	July 15	October 15	January 15	February 14

Financial Reporting

Financial reporting must be submitted at least quarterly and no more frequently than once per month. Financial reports of grant project expenditures are submitted via the Payment Request function within Euna. Required documentation must be submitted and approved for payment to be processed. Financial report requirements vary by risk assessment (OAT Level) – See the [Nebraska Crime Commission Subrecipient Monitoring Plan for Federal Grants](#) for additional information. All payments will be issued on a reimbursement basis.

NCC Performance Reporting

To achieve the goals and objectives of this grant program, the outcomes must be produced by the grantee. Grantees will be required to submit quarterly reports to NCC via Euna. Reports will include data on performance measures selected at application and corresponding narratives as appropriate. NCC Performance Measures are detailed in the NCC Reference Guide on the Grant Project Problem-Solving Process document. Additional information on NCC Performance Reporting will be provided to funded projects.

Reimbursement requests will not be considered until the applicable performance report has been received.

OVW Performance Reporting

The federal SASP program has also identified performance measures that indicate how a recipient is achieving the performance goals and objectives identified for this program. Grantees will be required to collect and report these performance measures to the Office of Violence Against Women (OVW) through the Violence Against Women Act Measuring Effectiveness Initiative (VAWA MEI) on an annual basis.

Grantees must create internal data collection processes to track the specific data points for quarterly reporting in the VAWA MEI system. Grantees must also designate a point of contact within the agency to enter the data. A sample reporting form to better understand the reporting requirements can be found [here](#). Additional information on VAWA MEI reporting and accessing the VAWA MEI system will be provided to funded projects.

<https://www.vawamei.org/>

Program Requirements

Cost Sharing (Match Funds)

Cost sharing is not required for the SASP grant program.

Volunteers

SASP-funded grantees are encouraged but not required to use volunteers in providing such services.

Confidentiality Requirements

OVW recipients and their subrecipients are prohibited from disclosing, revealing, or releasing personally identifying information or individual information collected in connection with services requested, utilized, or denied through grantee programs, regardless of whether the information has been encoded, encrypted, hashed, or otherwise protected.

See [34 USC §12291\(b\)\(2\)](#).

Grantees must document their compliance with these requirements and must acknowledge that they have received notice of these statutory requirements, including the requirement to document compliance. See [34 USC §12291\(b\)\(2\)\(G\)](#). The acknowledgement form is available on the OVW website at:

https://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/ovw/pages/attachments/2015/01/20/confidentiality_acknowledgement_form_42015.pdf

- Statute permits disclosure when the victim provides informed, written, and reasonably time-limited consent to the release or when a statute or a court compels that the information be released. Where there is a statutory or court mandate to release information, subrecipients must make reasonable attempts to provide notice to victims affected by the disclosure of information. They must also take necessary steps to protect the privacy and safety of the persons affected by the release of the information. See [34 USC §12291\(b\)\(2\)\(C\)](#).
- A parent or guardian may consent to disclosure regarding an unemancipated minor or legally incapacitated person; however, an abuser of a minor, of the minor's other parent, or of the legally incapacitated person is prohibited from giving consent to the disclosure. If a minor or a person with a legally appointed guardian is permitted by law to receive services without the parent's or guardian's consent, the minor or person with a guardian may release information without additional consent. See [34 USC §12291\(b\)\(2\)\(B\)\(ii\)](#).
- In addition, grantees may share information as follows:

- **Aggregate and Demographic Information.** regarding their services and demographics of victims for certain purposes, if this information does not identify specific individuals or reveal personally identifying information. They may share such aggregate information with appropriate agencies to comply with federal, state, tribal, or territorial reporting, evaluation, and data collection requirements.
- **Protection Order Enforcement.** For protection order enforcement purposes, court-generated and/or law enforcement-generated information contained in secure, governmental registries may be shared.
- **Law Enforcement and Prosecution Purposes.** Information generated by law enforcement or prosecution offices may be shared in so far as is necessary for law enforcement and prosecution purposes.
See [34 USC §12291\(b\)\(2\)\(D\)](#).
- **Fatality Reviews.** Grantees may share personally identifying information or individual information that is collected in connection with services requested, utilized, or denied through grantees' programs about deceased victims being sought for a fatality review, as outlined by Nebraska's Domestic Abuse Death Review Act¹ and only if:
 1. The grantee makes a reasonable effort to get a release from the victim's personal representative (if one has been appointed) and from any surviving minor children or the guardian of such children (but not if the guardian is the abuser of the deceased parent), if the children are not capable of knowingly consenting; and
 2. The information released is limited to that which is necessary for the purposes of the fatality review.
- **Inadvertent release.** Grantees are responsible for taking reasonable efforts to prevent inadvertent releases of personally identifying information or individual information that is collected in connection with services requested, utilized, or denied through grantees' programs.

Use of Funds

SASP funds support a wide range of activities designed to enhance victim safety and offender accountability. To assist applicants, a comprehensive document outlining all allowable activities and costs under SASP has been provided in **Error! Reference source not found.** This document serves as a valuable resource to ensure compliance and guide the effective use of funds. Applicants are encouraged to thoroughly review the document to fully understand the scope of eligible expenses and to align your program activities with SASP funding guidelines.

Program Evaluation

Nebraska recommends the utilization of surveys as a best practice for program evaluation and determination of consumer (victims, employees, stakeholders, etc.) satisfaction.

Projects are encouraged to utilize the iMPRoVE (Measures for Providers Responding to Victimization Experiences) platform for free customizable outcome measurement tool. Additional information is available from their website: <https://www.improve-tool.org/home>

¹ See [Neb Rev Stat §§ 71-3412 to 71-3421](#)

Application Contents & Submission Requirements

Application Contents

The application template is divided into five sections. Each section contains fields for providing necessary information for evaluating your application.

Section 1 - Applicant Information

This section collects basic identifying and contact information for your organization, points of contact, and authorized official.

Section 2 - Organizational Information

This section collects baseline information about your organization as a whole. It also provides detailed instruction on required attachments to accompany your application.

Section 3 – Program Information

This section collects information specific to the program within your organization for which you are seeking funding, NOT your organization as a whole. Refer to [Appendix D: NCC Victim Services Grant Programs: Organization & Program Type Definitions](#) as resource. This section has three subsections:

Community Collaboration & Effective Services

This section collects information about how the program has demonstrated efforts to collaborate with agencies within its jurisdiction, and evaluate program efficacy.

Program Funding

This section collects information about depth and breadth of your program's financial support, and provides instruction on how program income and potential duplicative funding requests are to be handled to prevent waste, fraud and abuse.

Subaward Narrative

This section collects information about how subawards will be used to support the work of the victim services program, and provides instruction on how to incorporate subaward budgets into the overall application.

Section 4 - Grant Project Narrative

This section collects information about the purpose of your program, and how you plan to demonstrate success. It is designed to be accompanied by a spreadsheet in which applicants will identify the planned performance measures for their grant project. See [Appendix E: NCC Grant Project Problem-Solving Process](#) for additional information on defining what problem your grant project is seeking to address, what you believe the solution to this problem is, how you will implement this solution, and how you will measure your progress on implementing this solution.

Section 5 - Budget Narrative

This section collects information about the project budget. It is designed to be accompanied by a spreadsheet in which applicants will identify the positions associated with their grant project positions and funding requests for their grant project.

Submission Requirements

Euna (formerly AmpliFund)

Applications must be submitted within Euna via the link provided below. Applications are due no later than Tuesday, May 5, 2026 by 5:00 PM (CDT)

, at which time the application portal will close. Late applications will not be accepted.

Euna application portal link: <https://ne.amplifund.com/Public/Opportunities/Details/5942497c-6ad9-4024-b30a-49832ede893e>

Applicants are highly encouraged to complete the submission process 48 hours prior to the deadline. New users/organizations will be required to register. Current users should NOT create a new profile.

For technical assistance with the Euna application portal, please contact Nebraska Euna Support at (844) 735-0239 or support@ne-amplifund.zendesk.com.

Applicants may also access resources and chat with Euna Support staff through the Euna Customer Support Portal at <https://ne-amplifund.zendesk.com>.

Attachments

All necessary application documents that support the proposed project are to be uploaded/attached to the online application as either a PDF, Word, or Excel file. Applicants are encouraged to open documents after they have been uploaded to ensure they are accurately filed.

File Naming Convention

Please name all files using the following naming convention:

Agency Name_Document Type_Document Name

Example: ACME County_Budget Spreadsheet_Victim Services Subgrantee Budget

Required for All Applications

1. **Application Template**
 - a. **Application Signature Page**
2. **Application Budget Request**
3. **Application Performance Measures**
4. **Applicant Eligibility Screening Form** - All applicants must complete this form and attach the signed form to their application to assist NCC in evaluating applicant eligibility to receive funding
5. **Applicant Risk Assessment Form** – All applicants must complete this form and attach the signed form to their application to assist NCC in evaluating the relative risk of noncompliance for applicants
6. **Certified Assurances** – Download the SFY 2027 Certified Assurances Template provided in Euna and have it completed by the Authorized Official listed on the application. Attach the completed form to the application.
7. **SAM Registration** – All applicants must provide evidence of their **agency name and UEI** from the SAM.gov website. This may be a PDF download or a screenshot. Registration does NOT need to be active to satisfy this requirement. The legal name of the applicant organization must exactly match the name associated with the SAM registration.
8. **Organizational Chart** – Provide an Organizational Chart that reflects the current leadership structure of the applicant agency.

9. **Acknowledgement of Statutory Confidentiality Requirements** – Applicants are required to acknowledge their statutory requirements are related to the confidentiality and privacy provisions of the Violence Against Women Act.

Required when Applicable

10. **Non-Profit Verification** – can include:
- 1) a copy of 501(c)(3) designation letter;
 - 2) a letter from the state taxing body or Attorney General stating that the applicant is a non-profit organization operating within the state; OR
 - 3) a copy of the state certificate of incorporation that substantiates the applicant's non-profit status.
- This requirement is only applicable to non-profit organizations.*
11. **IRS Form 990 OR equivalent** – All non-profit applicants must provide a copy of their most recent 990 or equivalent. *This requirement is only applicable to non-profit organizations.*
12. **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** – Attach MOU agreements related to this project. The MOU provides documentation that demonstrates that the partnered organizations consulted and coordinated the responsibilities of their project activities. The MOU must be signed by all partners. Signatories must be officially authorized to sign on behalf of the agency (e.g. the Authorized Official). *This requirement is only applicable to applications that include an explicit non-financial collaboration with partnering organizations.*
13. **Job Descriptions** – Attach Job Descriptions for all employees and volunteers contributing to the project as a single document.
- a. Each position included in the proposed budget must have a corresponding job description. All applicants must also submit volunteer job descriptions (unless a volunteer waiver is requested). Agencies may have multiple volunteer job descriptions, depending on the volunteer services provided.
 - b. Job descriptions should outline the position's Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) classification (i.e., exempt or non-exempt), necessary qualifications, primary responsibilities, and specific job duties related to the project. The percentage of time spent on overall tasks should also be indicated.
14. **Agency Policies** – Attach agency policies that are applicable to the proposed project. If no policy is submitted, the Crime Commission will default to the policy of the State of Nebraska.
- a. Personnel Policy, if personnel is requested. Must include information on requesting leave.
 - b. Travel Policy, if travel is requested.
 - c. Capitalization or Equipment Policy & Procurement Policy, if Equipment is requested.
 - d. Client Assistance Policy, if providing direct services are provided.
15. **Indirect Cost Rate Agreement** – Required for agencies that have a federally approved indirect cost rate agreement. Attach a copy of your agency's current Federally Approved Indirect Cost Rate Agreement.
- a. De Minimis Certification of Indirect Costs – Required for all agencies that are requesting 15% de minimis. If applicable, download and attach the completed form to the application.
 - b. Indirect Costs Calculator – Required for all agencies that have a federally approved Indirect Cost Rate Agreement or are requesting 15% de minimis. If applicable, download and attach the completed form to the application.

As Determined by Applicant

16. **Other Attachments** – Provide any other needed attachments corresponding with your application, such as a copy of agency bylaws if needed to confirm the Authorized Official listed.

Application Review

General Guidelines

The following guidelines are applied to applications:

- Use only the forms and instructions provided for this grant program. (i.e. do not recreate the forms)
- Use only the spreadsheets provided for this grant program (i.e. do not recreate the spreadsheets)
- Use no less than an 10-point font and adhere to word-count limits.
- Cite all sources of data and any statistics.
- Attach supporting documentation only as indicated in the RFA and/or Application Template.
 - Cover letters and letter of support are NOT requested for this application.

Applicant Risk Assessment

Prior to making an award, the NCC must evaluate the risk posed by the applicant as described in [2 CFR 200.332](#), using the applicant's responses to the questions listed in the Applicant Risk Assessment. NCC also must review and consider integrity and performance information about applicants that is available in SAM.gov.

Grantees must demonstrate the programmatic and fiscal responsibility necessary to properly discharge the public trust that accompanies the authority to expend public funds. Adequate accounting and program management systems should meet the following criteria:

- (1) Accounting records should provide information needed to adequately identify the receipt of funds under each grant awarded and the expenditure of funds for each grant.
- (2) Entries in accounting records should refer to subsidiary records and/or documentation that support the entry and can be readily located.
- (3) The accounting system should provide accurate and current financial reporting information.
- (4) The accounting system should be integrated with an adequate system of internal programmatic controls to safeguard the funds and assets covered, check the accuracy and reliability of accounting data, promote operational efficiency, and encourage adherence to prescribed management policies.
- (5) Certify that subrecipient and its principals are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, sentenced to a denial of Federal benefits by a state or Federal court, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal department or agency.

In addition to the application as a whole, the NCC *Applicant Risk Assessment Form* will be used to assist NCC in evaluating the relative risk of noncompliance for applicants. All applicants must complete this form and attach the signed form to their application.

Scoring & Funding Recommendations

Application review will be based on the following criteria:

- Applicant eligibility
- Applicant risk assessment
- Adherence to program requirements
- Completeness, clarity, continuity, and consistency

Applications shall include:

- All sections and information as outlined in the grant application template

- Availability of other resources to address the problem or need of the proposed project including an explanation of how the applicant's project proposal will work with and/or coordinate with existing resources
- Information indicating the ability and capacity of the proposed project to make an impact on the identified problem
- The performance and/or ability of the applicant to manage a grant program
- Cost effectiveness of the proposed project

In addition to the criteria listed above, the following will be considered when awarding funds:

- Amount of funds available
- Priorities described in this funding announcement
- Applicant's ability to consistently spend down previous grant awards
- Applicant's ability to consistently meet financial and programmatic reporting requirements and deadlines
- Prior measurable performance/effectiveness of programs
- Data-based and/or evidence-informed merit of the proposal
- Commitment to sustainability plans and/or match funds, such as funding personnel fringe or partially funding the programs

All eligible applications will be evaluated and scored on the completeness and clarity of the grant application, and if the budget request is necessary, reasonable, and allowable. Do not assume the grant reviewers know this information; provide detailed answers within each application. Applicant scoring criteria and point system can be found in [Appendix C: Application Scoring](#).

NCC reserves the right to reject any or all applications, to waive informalities and minor irregularities in applications received, and to accept any portion of the application, or all items proposed, if deemed in the best interest of the State of Nebraska to do so. Failure of the applicant to provide information requested in this RFA or the grant application may result in the disqualification of the applicant. The fact that an applicant meets eligibility requirements and applies for eligible services does not guarantee funding. The final contents of the approved application become contractual obligations of the grant award issued to a successful applicant.

Best Practices | Sexual Violence Response

Serious consideration will be given to applicants demonstrating the use of practices that have proven effective for achieving safety and stability for victims of sexual assault. Ideally, rape crisis centers will be or will become a network provider of the Nebraska Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence and meet their program standards.

NCC suggests that rape crisis centers consider implementing these best practice models, developed in collaboration with local and national experts in the field of sexual violence victim services, including the recommendations from the nationally recognized Sexual Assault Demonstration Initiative study. See [Appendix B: Resources](#) for more information.

Grant Management Requirements

Grant Guidelines

All subawards must comply with the applicable provisions of STOP, the Program Guidelines, the requirements outlined in the [DOJ Financial Guide](#) and the [NCC Grants Administration Manual](#). Subrecipients must maintain appropriate programmatic and financial records that fully disclose the amount and disposition of STOP funds received. This includes financial documentation for disbursements; daily time and attendance records specifying time devoted to allowable STOP program services; client files; the portion of the project supplied by other sources of revenue; job descriptions; contracts for services; and other records which facilitate an effective audit.

Monitoring

Grantees will be monitored through either an on-site visit or desk-top monitoring. The subrecipient agency agrees to allow reasonable and timely site visits by the Nebraska Crime Commission (NCC) and further agrees to make available upon request any records required to be maintained by this agreement, including personnel, fiscal, and programmatic. Should an on-site visit be conducted at a location with a confidential physical address, NCC assures confidentiality will be maintained. In certain situations, a subrecipient may be monitored either on-site or through desk monitoring on a more frequent basis to assure compliance.

Record Retention

Grantees must maintain appropriate programmatic and financial records.

System for Award Management (SAM) Registration

All applicants must be registered in the SAM database. This is the repository for standard information about federal financial assistance applicants, recipients, and subrecipients. Applicants are encouraged but not required to update or renew their SAM registration annually. Information to register or update your entity records can be accessed at <http://www.sam.gov>. Applicants are highly encouraged to start the SAM registration process or check on the status of your SAM registration as soon as possible since there could be difficulties or delays with this system.

Proof of Non-Profit Status

Non-profit organizations must submit the following documentation with their application:

- 1) A copy of their non-profit certification

AND

- 2) A copy of their most recent 990 (or equivalent)

All non-profits funded are required to make their financial statements available online (either on the non-profit organization's website or another publicly available website). Organizations that have federal 501(c)(3) tax status will be considered in compliance with this requirement, to the extent that the organization files IRS Form 990 or equivalent, as several sources already provide searchable online databases of such financial statements.

Certified Assurances

As a recipient of federal funds, the Crime Commission must certify and pass-on certain grant requirements to subgrantees. The Certified Assurances addressing these requirements can be found within Euna (formerly AmpliFund). Certified Assurances must be signed by the applicant's Authorized Official and submitted with the grant application.

Suitability to Interact Minors

Award recipients (at any tier) must make determinations of suitability before certain individuals may carry out project funded activities that involve interacting with individuals under the age of 18. This requirement applies regardless of an individual's employment status. The details of this requirement are posted here:

<https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/Interact-Minors.htm>

Breach of PII

Award recipients must have a written procedure in place in the event of an actual or imminent breach of a victim's personally identifying information (PII). Pertinent information can include items such as a victim's name, phone number, home address, or other information that could identify the victim or their location. Possible examples of situations include electronic database breaches, lost or misplaced physical victim files, or discussing a victim's PII in unauthorized or public spaces.

This procedure must include notification of the event to the Nebraska Crime Commission (NCC) within 24 hours of becoming aware of the incident. NCC must be notified within 24 *regular* hours, not business hours. This can be done through an e-mail explaining what has happened (without disclosing any PII), and what steps the subrecipient is taking to remedy the situation.

Civil Rights

Maintenance of Civil Rights Information

Grantees must maintain statutorily required civil rights statistics on victims served by race, national origin, sex, age, and disability, by contract period; and permit NCC reasonable access to its books, documents, papers, and records to determine whether the subrecipient is complying with applicable civil rights laws. This requirement is waived when providing a service, such as telephone counseling, where soliciting the information may be inappropriate or offensive to the crime victim.

Equal Employment Opportunity Program (EEOP) Assurance of Compliance

Grantees must prepare an Equal Employment Opportunity Program (EEOP) in accordance with 28 CFR Part 42, Subpart E, if directed to do so.

NOTE: The EEOP Reporting Tool, previously available at <https://ocr-eeop.ncjrs.gov/>, was unavailable at time of release of this RFA.

Nondiscrimination

Grantees shall comply with state and federal civil rights laws, including the prohibition of discrimination against protected persons. Federal laws prohibit recipients of federal funds from discriminating on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (as defined in paragraph 249(c)(4) of title 18, United States Code), sexual orientation, or disability in funded programs or activities, not only in respect to employment practices but also in the delivery of services or benefits. Federal law also prohibits funded programs or activities from discriminating on the basis of age in the delivery of services or benefits. All subgrantees must prepare a written policy regarding how the agency will actively notify staff and program participants of nondiscrimination policies. Recipients must comply with applicable federal civil rights laws, including

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964,
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973,
- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972,
- Age Discrimination Act of 1975,
- Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968,
- Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and
- Department of Justice (DOJ) regulation for the Equal Treatment of Faith-Based Organizations.

The nondiscrimination provision in the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), as amended, covers any program or activity funded in whole or in part by OVW.

See [34 USC §12291\(b\)\(13\)\(A\)](#).

Under this provision, recipients may provide sex-segregated or sex-specific programming if doing so is necessary to the essential operation of a program (e.g., in the case of women's safety), so long as the recipient provides comparable services to those who cannot be provided with the sex-segregated or sex-specific programming.

See [34 USC §12291\(b\)\(13\)\(B\)](#).

Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Individuals

In accordance with Department of Justice Guidance pertaining to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 USC §2000d, recipients of Federal financial assistance must take reasonable steps to ensure that persons with limited English proficiency (LEP) have meaningful access to recipients' programs and activities and ensuring that these programs and activities are readily accessible to qualified individuals with disabilities, including Deaf or hard of hearing individuals. "Meaningful access" will generally involve some combination of oral interpretation services and written translation of vital documents. For more information access: <http://www.lep.gov> .

Employment Eligibility Verification

Award recipients (at any tier) must properly verify the employment eligibility of the individual who is being hired, consistent with the provisions of [8 USC §1324a\(a\)\(1\) and \(2\)](#).

Subawards

Subawards, also referred to as subgrants or pass-through-funds, involve the passing down of federal funds to a partner agency to conduct activities that assist in the overall achievement of project outcomes. The lead agency identified in the application will issue a tier 2 subaward and will reimburse the partner agency for actual costs. The lead agency is also responsible for monitoring the partner agency's compliance with grant requirements. If the tier 2 subaward activities will benefit individuals under 18 years of age, the applicant agrees to pass down the condition to the partner agency to determine suitability to interact with minors.

All tier II subawards must have specific Crime Commission authorization. Each partner agency subawarded funds under this project must have a signed subaward and special conditions with the lead agency. Prior to issuing funds to partner agencies, the lead agency must check for suspension or debarment. The lead agency/subrecipient must provide a copy of the signed subaward and special conditions before receiving reimbursement for subaward expenses from the Crime Commission.

Financial Requirements

Agency Audits & Documentation

Agencies receiving federal funds from various sources totaling \$1,000,000 or more during their fiscal year are required to have a Single Audit. This single organization-wide audit shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of [2 CFR Part 200 Subpart F](#) and a copy shall be provided to the Crime Commission.

If less than \$1,000,000 is expended in one year, then the agency is exempt from federal audit requirements. However, it is highly recommended that a complete agency audit complying with [2 CFR Part 200 Subpart F](#) is conducted once every three years.

Authorized representatives of the Crime Commission or federal representatives shall have the right to examine all records related to this grant for the purpose of audit and examinations. Types of documentation that must be maintained are detailed in the following section.

Accounting System and Records

Commingling of funds on either a program-by-program or project-by-project basis is prohibited. The subrecipients accounting system must maintain a clear audit trail for each source of funding for each fiscal budget period and include the following:

- a) Separate accountability of receipts, obligations, expenditures of all grant funds, disbursements, and balances.
- b) Itemized records supporting all grant receipts, expenditures and match contributions in sufficient detail to show exact nature of activity.
- c) Data and information for each expenditure and match contribution with proper reference to a supporting voucher or bill properly approved.
- d) Hourly timesheets with details of project activities, signed by the employee and supervisor, to document hours personnel worked on grant related activities. Match hours must be documented in the same manner. Payroll expenses claimed for reimbursement must correspond with actual time spent on the project, as supported by timesheets.
- e) Prorated costs are required to be calculated and documented monthly by utilizing the Proration of Costs Spreadsheet. This spreadsheet must be submitted with every *applicable* drawdown request. The NCC Grant Manager assigned to your organization will review to ensure that only the actual costs for that reporting period are reimbursed.
- f) Maintenance of payroll authorizations and vouchers.
- g) Maintenance of records supporting charges for fringe benefits.
- h) Maintenance of inventory records for equipment purchased, rented, and contributed.
- i) Maintenance of billing records for consumable supplies (i.e., paper, printing) purchased.
- j) Provisions for payment by check.
- k) Maintenance of travel records (i.e., mileage logs, gas receipts).
- l) Lease Agreements, contracts services, and purchases of equipment that adhere to established procurement processes.

Cost Sharing (Match)

If a cost sharing or match requirements are identified in the program description for this grant program, then the following cost-sharing principles apply.

Match Guidelines

Applicants must develop a project budget that reflects both federally-funded and match-funded line-items. In developing your budget, consider the following guidelines for match-funds:

- May be cash from non-federal sources or in-kind contributions.
- Must directly relate to the project goals and objectives.
- Must follow all program guidelines, including allowable activities and costs.
- Must be financially documented in the same manner as federal grant funds.
- Must be expended within the same project period.
- Cannot be used as match for any other federal awards.

Applicants are encouraged to show the full amount allowable for their project within their budget. Projects that exceed match minimum requirements enhance their program sustainability.

Cash Match

Sources of cash match may include:

- Program Income (funds generated by the grant-funded project activities).
 - Program Income is encouraged to be used as match whenever applicable and may be required for some grant programs.
- State funds from grants and other funding mechanisms
- Local funds from grants and other funding mechanisms
- Private funds from grants, donations, and other funding mechanisms
- Revenue from non-grant funded activities

In-Kind Match

In-Kind match consists of donations to project activities other than cash and may include donations of expendable equipment, office supplies, workshop or classroom materials, discounted prices, workspace, or the monetary value of time contributed by professional and technical personnel and other skilled and unskilled labor if the services they provide are an integral and necessary part of the funded project. The value or depreciation value of furniture or equipment is not allowable as match.

Sources of in-kind match may include:

- Volunteered professional or personal services
 - The monetary value placed on volunteer services provided as in-kind match shall be consistent with the rate of compensation paid for similar work in the applicant's organization and/or at an equitable fair market value.
 - If the duties performed by volunteers are not similar to paid positions of the organization, then the agency may use a comparable fair market rate or a rate of compensation not to exceed **\$22.25/hour** for volunteers requiring specialized training.
 - All other volunteer hours cannot exceed **\$15.00/hour**.
 - Volunteers who are on-call for a 24-hour period may contribute up to 16 hours towards match and volunteers who are on-call for 16 hours may contribute up to 8 hours towards match. However, all actual time spent providing grant funded activities can be counted as match.

- Records must be maintained that indicate how the rate of compensation was determined and to document all service delivery and hours.
- Materials/Equipment
 - The value placed on lent or donated equipment shall not exceed its fair market value.
 - Equipment identified as match will be subject to NCC Equipment procurement and inventory retention policies and practices.
- Space and Facilities
 - The value placed on which shall not exceed the fair rental value of comparable space and facilities as established by an independent appraisal of comparable space and facilities in a privately-owned building in the same locality.

Supplanting

Supplanting is to deliberately reduce state or local funds because of the existence of federal funds. A recipient cannot use federal funds to supplant (replace) other existing funds. Any request to support a project with federal funds must address how the request is NOT supplanting of funds. The applicant must address supplanting by clearly addressing the following:

- a) How the costs were previously funded.
- b) Why the funds are no longer available.
- c) When the funds ended and/or any temporary funding agreements or arrangements.

Fully Funded Positions

Any position 100% funded through grant funds and/or match must be 100% dedicated to the grant program allowable activities.

Procurement Process

State agencies are governed by procedures of the Department of Administrative Services (DAS), these are located at <http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing.html>

Counties must follow the process outlined in Nebraska statute located at <https://www.nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/statutes.php?statute=23-3108>

All other agencies must adhere to the written process of the agency. Any agency that does not have a written policy, should plan to follow state procedure (i.e. the DAS Procurement Process).

Equipment

Equipment (including replacements) purchased in whole or in part with grant funds must be maintained and the following requirements must be followed.

- a) Maintain property records which include all of the following:
 - Description of the property
 - Serial number or other identification number
 - Source of the property Identification of the title holder
 - Acquisition date
 - Cost of the property
 - Percentage of Federal participation in the cost of the property
 - Location of the property
 - Use and condition of the property

- Disposition data, including the date of disposal and sale price
- b) Conduct a physical inventory of the property and reconcile the results with the property records at least once every 2 years.
- c) Loss, damage, or theft:
 - A control system must be in place with adequate safeguards to prevent these occurrences.
 - Promptly and properly investigate any loss damage, or theft.
 - Establish and use adequate maintenance procedures to keep the property in good condition.
 - If authorized or required to sell the property, a proper sales procedure must be established to ensure the highest possible return.
- d) Original or replacement equipment acquired under the funded project that is no longer needed for the original project must be disposed. This is also true when equipment acquired under the funded project will be used for other activities. The following must be adhered to in equipment disposition:
 - If the item to be disposed of has a current per -unit fair market value of less than \$5,000, it may be retained, sold, or otherwise disposed of with no further obligation to NCC.
 - If the item has a current per-unit fair market value of \$5, 000 or more, it may be retained and sold, but NCC will have a right to a specific dollar amount.

Contracts and Consultants

Contracts must adhere to established procurement processes. Any request for a noncompetitive approach for a contract of \$250,000 or more will require additional approval from the federal Office of Justice Programs. Nebraska does not prescribe a single universal rate for consultants. Instead, rates may vary depending on the nature and scope of the services provided. However, for individual consulting engagements supported by federal funding, compliance with the federally established rate is mandatory: individual consultants must adhere to a rate of \$81.25 per hour, not to exceed \$650 per day.

Special Conditions and Implementation

Awarded applicants must sign Special Conditions issued with the award that include requirements under federal and state laws in addition to requirements for accounting, data collection and reporting.

Funded projects must be implemented within 30 days from the start date listed on the grant award or another date specified upon issuance of the grant award. Failure to implement a project within the time frame, or a time frame agreed upon by the grant administrator, may result in the loss of grant funds. Purchases for budgeted one-time expenses (such as equipment and technology needs) should be made in the first quarter to ensure that the project fully benefits from the purchase.

NCC Grant Management Training (GMT)

Project Points of Contact (PPOCs) and Financial Points of Contact (FPOCs) are required to complete GMT.

- Continuing Projects and Established Personnel
 - PPOCs and FPOCs are required to retake GMT every three years.
 - If the PPOC and FPOC did not complete NCC GMT in 2025, they must complete GMT within 120 days of the start of the project.
- New Projects and New Personnel
 - In the event of personnel changes, any new PPOCs and FPOCs are required to complete GMT within 120 days from the effective date of taking the position.
 - For newly funded projects, the timeframe for completing GMT is the latter of 120 days after receiving the grant award or 120 days from the beginning of the project.

This training is also recommended (but not required) for other staff supporting the project as applicable. More information on completing GMT will be provided to funded projects.

Appendix A: Use of Funds

Allowable Services, Activities, and Costs

A wide variety of services are eligible to be paid with SASP Program funds. The following list is an example of these services by funding category. This list is not all-inclusive.

1. To establish, maintain, and/or expand rape crisis centers and other nongovernmental or tribal programs and projects to assist those victimized by sexual assault, without regard to the age of the individual.
2. 24-hour hotline services providing crisis intervention services and referral. If the hotline covers a broader array of issues, the costs must be prorated according to the percentage of calls that are for sexual assault, and the people who answer the calls need to have sexual assault specific training.
3. Accompaniment and advocacy through medical, criminal justice, and social support systems including medical facilities, police, and court proceedings.
4. Crisis intervention, short-term individual and group support services, and comprehensive service coordination and supervision to assist sexual assault victims and non-offending family or household members. Women's only and men's only support groups are allowable only when segregation by sex is necessary to the essential operation of the program. In this case, "comparable services" must be provided to victims/survivors who cannot be served by the sex-specific groups.
5. Short-term (up to one year) counseling/therapy services, including funding of licensed mental health professionals with experience in treating sexual assault trauma.
6. Innovative support services and alternative approaches that integrate conventional and trauma-informed therapies to promote healing across the lifespan.
7. Information and referral to assist the sexual assault victim and non-offending family or household members.
8. Client assistance (i.e., gas, food, clothing) for sexual assault victims.
9. Community-based, culturally specific services and support mechanisms, including outreach activities to underserved communities.
10. Support for sexual assault services to victims and survivors who are incarcerated.
11. Campus projects providing sexual assault services.
12. Outreach activities to inform individuals about the sexual assault services provided by the funded project.
13. Development and distribution of materials on issues related to the sexual assault services provided. Activities may include developing culturally and linguistically accurate materials and developing translated resources.
14. Support for advocates to provide sexual assault services.
15. Training for SASP-funded advocates.
16. Volunteer-related activities, so long as those volunteers provide direct sexual assault services for victims. Allowable activities would include training volunteers to provide crisis intervention and supervision of volunteers.
17. Funds may be used to serve a specific age group, such as funding a children's advocate or a youth advocate. However, the organization itself must provide services to sexual assault victims of all ages.

Other Allowable Costs and Services.

1. SASP funds may be used to support projects that focus on direct services for children who are victims of sexual assault. Services rendered to children do not have to be in connection to serving an adult parent and there is no age restriction on providing services to children.

2. SASP funds may be used to support volunteer related expenses as they relate to the SASP project. Examples would include training and supervision of volunteers.
3. SASP funds may be used to train advocates (volunteer or employee) that will provide specific grant-funded services. Note: Funds may not be used to provide a generalized statewide training nor may funds be used to develop training curriculums.
4. Programs using funds for victim/client assistance (i.e., gas, food, clothing) must have specific written policies or protocols in place to ensure that funds are utilized as intended. A copy of the agency's policy regarding client assistance must be submitted if this is included in the proposed budget. Gift cards are not allowed.
5. Applicants are encouraged to allocate grant funds to support activities that help to ensure individuals with disabilities and Deaf individuals and persons with limited English proficiency have meaningful and full access to their programs. For example, grant funds can be used to support American Sign Language (ASL) interpreter services, language interpretation and translation services, or the purchase of adaptive equipment.

Unallowable Services, Activities, and Costs

Unallowable costs include but are not limited to the following:

1. Research projects (outside of program assessments conducted only for internal improvement purposes).
2. Sexual assault forensic examiner projects or criminal justice activities (i.e., law enforcement, prosecution, courts, or forensic interviews).
3. Prevention and education activities.
4. Projects focused on training allied professions and/or communities for statewide training efforts.
5. To establish or maintain Sexual Assault Response Teams.
6. Domestic violence services unrelated to sexual violence.
7. To purchase food and/or beverages for any meeting, conference, training, or other event is not allowable. All such events must be approved by the Crime Commission before any contracts are signed or arrangements finalized. Therefore, food and beverage costs are now unallowable under any grant, cooperative agreement, and/or contract. This restriction does not impact direct payment of per diem amounts to individuals attending a meeting or conference, provided they fall within the guidelines.

Activities that Compromise Victim Safety and Recovery or Undermine Offender Accountability

Activities that jeopardize victim safety, deter or prevent physical or emotional healing for victims, or allow offenders to escape responsibility for their actions. Below are lists of these activities.

1. Procedures or policies that exclude eligible victims from receiving services based on the classifications identified in [34 USC §12291\(b\)\(13\)\(A\)](#) or their actual or perceived mental or physical health condition, criminal record, employment history or status, income or lack of income, or the age and/or sex of their children.²
2. Procedures or policies that compromise the confidentiality of information and/or privacy of victims.

² Grantees are subject to statutory prohibitions on discrimination. For further information on the civil rights requirements governing recipients of federal funding, see Requirements for All OVW Applicants and Recipients. In addition, OVW regulations provide that victim eligibility for direct services is not dependent on the victim's immigration status. [28 CFR §90.4\(c\)](#).

3. Procedures or policies that require victims to take certain actions or penalize them for failing to do so. This includes but is not limited to: seek an order of protection; receive counseling; participate in counseling, mediation, or restorative justice/circle processes; report to law enforcement or other authorities; seek civil or criminal remedies.
4. Procedures or policies that fail to include conducting safety planning with victims.
5. Project designs, products, services, and/or budgets that fail to account for the unique needs of individuals with disabilities, with limited English proficiency, or who are Deaf or hard of hearing, including accessibility for such individuals.
6. Using technology without addressing implications for victim confidentiality, safety planning, and the need for informed consent.
7. Partnering with individuals or organizations that support/promote practices that compromise victim safety and recovery or undermine offender accountability.
8. Materials that are not tailored to the dynamics of sexual assault or to the specific population(s) to be addressed by the project.
9. Policies that deny individuals access to services based on their relationship to the perpetrator.

Out-of-Scope Activities

The activities listed below are out of the program scope and will not be funded. Any out-of-scope activities must be removed from the application.

1. Research projects. Funds under this program may not be used to conduct research, defined by [28 CFR §46.102\(d\)](#) as a systematic investigation designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge. However, assessments conducted for internal improvement purposes only may be allowable. For information on distinguishing between research and assessments, see the Application Companion Guide.
2. Promoting or facilitating the violation of federal immigration law.
3. Inculcating or promoting gender ideology as defined in Executive Order 14168, Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government.
4. Promoting or facilitating discriminatory programs or ideology, including programs that do not advance the policy of equal dignity and respect. This prohibition is not intended to interfere with any of OVW's statutory obligations, such as funding for HBCUs, culturally specific services, and disability programs.
5. Activities that frame domestic violence or sexual assault as systemic social justice issues rather than criminal offenses (e.g., prioritizing criminal justice reform or social justice theories over victim safety and offender accountability).
6. Generic community engagement or economic development without a clear link to violence prevention, victim safety, or offender accountability.
7. Programs that discourage collaboration with law enforcement or oppose or limit the role of police, prosecutors, or immigration enforcement in addressing violence against women.
8. Awareness campaigns or media that do not lead to tangible improvements in prevention, victim safety, or offender accountability.
9. Initiatives that prioritize illegal aliens over U.S. citizens and legal residents in receiving victim services and support.
10. Excessive funding for consulting fees, training, administrative costs, or other expenses not related to measurable violence prevention, victim support, and offender accountability.
11. Any activity or program that unlawfully violates an Executive Order.
12. Activities addressing human trafficking unrelated to sexual assault.
13. Activities addressing Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP) unrelated to sexual assault.

14. Activities focused on prevention efforts and education (e.g., bystander intervention, social norms campaigns, presentations on healthy relationships, etc.).
15. Criminal justice-related projects, including funding for law enforcement, prosecution, courts, and forensic interviews.
16. Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examiner programs.
17. Sexual Assault Response Team coordination.
18. Providing training to allied professions and the community (e.g., law enforcement, child protection services, prosecution, other community-based organizations, etc.).
19. Domestic violence services unrelated to sexual violence.
20. Legal services.

Note: Recipients and subrecipients should serve all eligible victims as required by statute, regulation, or award condition.

Activities Requiring Prior Approval

- **Surveys:** Recipients must receive prior approval before using grant funds to support surveys, regardless of their purpose, to ensure they are within the scope of the award and meet the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act.
 - EXCEPT: Implementation and support of the iMPRoVE (Measures for Providers Responding to Victimization Experiences) platform is pre-approved.

Other Unallowable Costs

Any costs incurred either before the start of the project period or after the expiration of the project period are not allowable. Costs that are deemed not reasonable and/or necessary for the successful completion of the project are not allowable.

1. **Capital expenses** – Capital improvements; property losses and expenses; real estate purchases; mortgage payments; physical modifications to buildings, including minor renovations; and construction (except as specifically allowed by law).
2. **Lobbying** – STOP funds cannot be used, either directly or indirectly, to support the enactment, repeal, modification, or adoption of any law, regulation, or policy at any level of government.
3. **Fundraising** – The costs of organized fundraising, including financial campaigns, endowment drives, solicitation of gifts and bequests, and similar expenses incurred solely to raise capital or obtain contributions may not be charged as direct or indirect costs against awards. This restriction does not apply to fee-based program income authorized by NCC.
4. **Entertainment** (2 CFR 200.438).
5. **Fines and penalties**, except when incurred as a result of compliance with specific provisions of an award or contract, or with prior written approval from the awarding DOJ agency (2 CFR 200.441);
6. **Honoraria** is unallowable when the primary intent is to confer distinction on, or to symbolize respect, esteem, or admiration for the recipient of the honorarium. A payment for services rendered, such as a speaker's fee under an award is allowable.
7. **Bar charges/alcoholic beverages** (2 CFR 200.423), and
8. **Membership fees** to organizations whose primary activity is lobbying (2 CFR 200.454(e))
9. **Costs Incurred Outside the Project Period** – Any costs that are incurred either before the start of the project period or after the expiration of the project period (except for closeout costs, see 2 CFR 200.472(b)) are not allowable, unless written approval covering these costs is granted by the awarding DOJ agency.
10. **Immigration fees**
11. **Employee Bonuses**

In addition to the program-specific unallowable costs listed above, the following costs are not allowed by various other federal statutes, rules, or grant conditions.

12. **Food and Beverages** – No funds (federal and/or match) can be used to purchase food and/or beverages for any meeting, conference, group, training or other event. NCC must approve all such events (either in the application process, or through an independent request) before any contracts are signed or arrangements finalized. This restriction does not impact direct payment of per diem amounts to individuals attending a meeting or conference, provided they fall within the guidelines.
13. **Match Requirements** – Federal funds cannot be used to match other federal funds.
14. **Crime Prevention** – Costs, including personnel expenses, for crime prevention activities and education presentations. (NOTE: It is allowable to use funds for public awareness and community education to promote programs and services that are provided to crime victims.)
15. **Violation of Immigration Law** – Any program or activity that, directly or indirectly, violates (or promotes or facilitates the violation of) federal immigration law (including 8 USC §1373) or impedes or hinders the enforcement of federal immigration law—including by failing to comply with 8 USC §1373, give access to DHS agents, or honor DHS requests and provide requested notice to DHS agents.
16. **Violation of Civil Rights or Nondiscrimination Law** - Any program or activity that violates any applicable Federal civil rights or nondiscrimination law. This includes violations that (1) indirectly violate the law, including by promoting or facilitating violations, or (2) unlawfully favor individuals in any race or protected group, including on a majority or minority, or privileged or unprivileged, basis, within a given area, population, or sector.
17. **Legal Services for Aliens** - **Except as indicated in (a) below**, costs of providing legal services (that is, professional services of the kind lawfully provided only by individuals licensed to practice law) to any removable alien (see 8 USC §1229a(e)(2)) or any alien otherwise unlawfully present in the United States are disallowed and may not be charged against the award.
 - (a) Costs for legal services disallowed under the preceding sentence do not include costs for legal services—
 - (1) to obtain protection orders for victims of crime (including associated or related orders (e.g., custody orders), arising from the victimization);
 - (2) that are associated with or relate to actions under 18 USC ch. 77 (peonage, slavery, and trafficking in persons);
 - (3) to obtain T-visas, U-visas, or “continued presence” immigration status (see, e.g., 8 USC §1101(a)(15)(T) & (U); 22 USC §7105(c)(3)(A)); or
 - (4) as to which such disallowance would contravene any express requirement of any law, or of any judicial ruling, governing or applicable to the award.

NOTE: Federal STOP funds are explicitly allowed for legal services to assist victims, as detailed above.

Nebraska Unallowed Costs

The Nebraska Crime Commission, as the State Administrative Agency, has determined that the following costs, which maybe federally allowable, will not be allowed in this application period.

1. **Leasing or purchasing vehicles** – Costs for the leasing or purchasing vehicles.
2. **Project evaluation** – Costs for evaluations of specific projects (in order to determine their effectiveness).
3. **Construction, Land Acquisition, and Remodeling** – Costs of purchasing land for development, real estate, or to make physical modifications to buildings, excluding minor repairs. For repairs and/or replacement of items see allowable uses of VAWA funds.

4. **Entertainment Devices/Services** – Costs for devices or services that are primarily for entertainment purposes.
5. **Services to Businesses** – Costs associated with providing services to a business, unless an individual or individuals within the business are victims of a crime.
6. **Crime Victim Reparations (CVR)** – Costs that are pending a CVR claim or have been reimbursed through the CVR process.
7. **Payments made Directly to Employees (Stipends)** – Stipends and other cash in lieu of benefits are not allowable. Arrangements made between the applicant and an employee to provide reimbursement for the cost of an insurance policy that is personally held by the employee or a relative of the employee cannot be supported with federal funds. This does not include other eligible fringe benefits, such as HSA contributions.

Appendix B: Resources

The following links may be useful resources to assist in these efforts:

Federal Resources

- Office on Violence Against Women
 - <http://www.justice.gov/ovw>
- Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)
 - Human Trafficking: <https://ovc.ojp.gov/program/human-trafficking/overview>
 - Sexual Assault: <https://ovc.ojp.gov/topics/sexual-assault>
- National Institute of Justice
 - Victims of Crime: <https://nij.ojp.gov/topics/victims-of-crime>

National Resources

- National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC)
 - Building Comprehensive Sexual Assault Programs: <https://www.nsvrc.org/resource/building-comprehensive-sexual-assault-programs/>
 - Sexual Assault Demonstration Initiative: <https://www.nsvrc.org/sexual-assault-demonstration-initiative/>
- End Violence Against Women International (EVAWI)
 - Best Practice Resources: <https://evawintl.org/resources/best-practice-resources/>

Resources for Research-Based Practices

- Results First Resources
 - <https://evidence2impact.psu.edu/results-first-resources/>
 - Evidence-Based Policymaking Resource Center: <https://evidence2impact.psu.edu/results-first-resources/evidence-based-policymaking-resource-center/>
 - Clearinghouse Database: <https://evidence2impact.psu.edu/results-first-resources/clearing-house-database/>

Appendix C: Application Scoring

Scoring review includes, but not limited to:

General Overview

- Applicant adheres to the general guidelines
- Appropriate signatures are included

Section 1 - Applicant Information

- Applicant provides all information requested
- Financial Point of Contact cannot be the same person as Project Point of Contact
- Organization address matches SAM.gov
- Organization name matches SAM.gov

Section 2 - Organizational Information (10 Points)

- Applicant eligibility – per NCC Applicant Eligibility Screening Form
- Applicant risk assessment – per NCC Applicant Risk Assessment Form
- Applicant provided a concise historical background of agency.
- Addresses the methods to be used to ensure the inclusion of the underserved population. Special accommodations needed to serve identified underserved populations are included.

Section 3 - Victim Services Program (25 Points)

- Clear description of how agency will work with other community partners to carry out project's activities and avoid duplication of services.
- Community partners and their role in the project identified.
- Description of services provided by applicant provided.
- Capacity of staff identified and shows capability to carry out project.
- Clearly describes an identified priority area and makes a connection on how this proposed program will meet the priority areas.
- An explanation of how this project's funding will continue after the grant funds cease is clearly presented. Any sources of definite future funding are identified. If future funding is uncertain, potential sources for funding are stated. If this project is not to continue after the grant, a clear explanation is given. Strategies to cultivate future funding sources are provided.
- Applicant describes its current efforts to leverage its community and other funding sources in support of sustainability beyond federal funding.
- Applicant in detail describes how the project will address federal project priorities.
- Underserved populations to be served identified.

Section 4 - Grant Project Narrative (25 Points)

- Clear descriptive summary of the project including the proposed project's purpose and intended impact, the geographic area served, direct services provided, and expected outcomes.
- Clearly describes how the program will address the social problem(s), including local and/or statewide crime rate information/data.
- Community-specific need/reasons for the project is clearly defined with and local supportive data used to support the need.
- Population to be served, current services, & obstacles faced by the population identified.
- Goals & Objectives are clearly reflective of the project's activities.

- Objectives are S.M.A.R.T (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, & Timely).
- Measurements detail how objectives will be met.
- A clear plan to determine the impact of the project is described.
- Evaluation method(s) is/are clearly identified and is/are consistent with the type of data to be gathered.

Section 5 - Budget Narrative (25 Points)

- Budget narrative accurately explains project costs that are reasonable, necessary, and allowable.
- The budget narrative is mathematically sound and corresponds clearly with the information and figures provided in the Budget tables.
- The narrative explains how the applicant estimated and calculated all costs, and how those costs are necessary for the completion of the proposed project.
- The budget is appropriate and adequate for the project.
- The budget is clear and precise--there are no miscellaneous or unexplained expense.
- Proposed budget supplements - does not supplant existing efforts/budgets.
- Budget narrative provided for each line item which details, matches, and justified the amounts included in the budget form clearly.
- Budget tables completed correctly and fully.
- Budget clearly reflects activities discussed in Project Activities.
- Rates are reasonable and consistent with that paid for similar work. If the position is funded partially by the grant the % of salary is identified. Other sources of funds are clearly identified which fund the proposed program.
- Clear description the proposed expenditures set forth in the project budget are allowable, reasonable, and cost effective.
- Detailed budget breakdowns are complete, clear description of how request is necessary to meet the goals and outcomes of the program.

Reviewer Assessment and Recommendations (15 Points)

Overall impressions and recommendations of reviewers.

- The proposal is a good presentation of the project.
- The project has a high potential for success.
- The project represents a good financial investment.
- The project is consistent with the solicitation priorities.
- The proposal is innovative and/or is consistent with sound victim services principles.

Total Points: 100

Appendix D: NCC Victim Services Grant Programs: Organization & Program Type Definitions

Organization Types

Organizations may align with the definition of more than one organization type definition. Deference should be given to the most narrowly defined type.

Community-Based Organizations (CBO)

The term "community-based organization" means a nonprofit, nongovernmental, or tribal organization that serves a specific geographic community.

Adapted from: [42 USC 13925\(a\)](#) / [34 USC 12291](#)

Nonprofit organization

Nonprofit organization means any organization that:

- (1) Is operated primarily for scientific, educational, service, charitable, or similar purposes in the public interest;
- (2) Is not organized primarily for profit;
- (3) Uses net proceeds to maintain, improve, or expand the organization's operations; and
- (4) Is not an [Institute of Higher Education](#).

Source: [2 CFR 200.1](#)

For-profit organization

For-profit organization generally means an organization or entity organized for the purpose of earning a profit. The term includes but is not limited to:

- (1) An "S corporation" incorporated under subchapter S of the Internal Revenue Code;
- (2) A corporation incorporated under another authority;
- (3) A partnership;
- (4) A limited liability company or partnership; and
- (5) A sole proprietorship.

Source: [2 CFR 200.1](#)

Culturally Specific Organization (CSO)

Private nonprofit organizations and Tribal organizations whose primary purpose is to provide culturally specific services.

Pursuant to 34 USC §12291(a)(8), “culturally specific” means primarily directed toward racial and ethnic minority groups, as defined in 42 USC §300u-6(g). Section 300u-6(g) defines “racial and ethnic minority groups” as “American Indians and Alaska Natives; Asian Americans; Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders; Blacks; and Hispanics.”

Government Agencies (GOV)

State Agency (SA)

The term “State agency” means any department, agency, or instrumentality of a State.

Adapted from: [42 USC §4601](#)

Local Government (LG)

Local government means any unit of government within a state, including a:

- (1) County;
- (2) Municipality/City;
- (3) Town/Township;
- (4) Local public authority, including any public housing agency under the United States Housing Act of 1937;
- (5) Special district;
- (6) School district;

Adapted from: [2 CFR §200.1](#)

Tribal Government (TG)

A governing body of a tribe, band, pueblo, community, village, or group of native American Indians, or Alaska Natives, qualifies as an Indian tribal government upon determination by the Internal Revenue Service that the governing body exercises governmental functions.

Source: [26 CFR 305.7701-1](#)

For grant eligibility purposes, Nebraska Crime Commission will only award funds to [Tribal Governments](#) recognized in Nebraska. Specifically, this includes: Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, Ponca Tribe of Nebraska, Santee Sioux Nation, and Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska. This limitation applies to tribal governments ONLY and does not imply a limitation to funding community-based organizations working with other tribes or other culturally specific populations.

Health Care Organization (HCO)

Health Care Organization has the same meaning as a health care facility established in [Neb Rev Stat §71-413](#)

“An ambulatory surgical center, an assisted-living facility, a center or group home for the developmentally disabled, a critical access hospital, a general acute hospital, a health clinic, a hospital, an intermediate care facility, an intermediate care facility for persons with developmental disabilities, a long-term care hospital, a mental health substance use treatment center, a nursing facility, a PACE center, a pharmacy, a psychiatric or mental hospital, a public health clinic, a rehabilitation hospital, or a skilled nursing facility.”

Professional Service Association (PSA)

Organizations such as business leagues, chambers of commerce, or boards of trade that meet the requirements of a nonprofit organization under Section 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Source: [26 USC §501\(C\)\(6\)](#) & [IRS Exempt Organization Types](#)

Other Organization Types

Organizations that do not align with the definitions above will be categorized as “Other.”

Victim Services Program Types

Domestic & Sexual Violence Program (DSV)

A community-based organization that—

- (A) focuses primarily on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking;
- (B) has established a specialized culturally specific program that addresses domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking;
- (C) has a primary focus on underserved populations (and includes representatives of these populations) and domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking; or
- (D) obtains expertise, or shows demonstrated capacity to work effectively, on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking through collaboration.

For grant eligibility purposes, unless an exception is requested and approved by NCC, all Rape Crisis Centers are Domestic & Sexual Violence Programs. When requested, Domestic & Sexual Violence Programs must specify if they meet the definition of Rape Crisis Centers.

Rape Crisis Center

The term "rape crisis center" means a nonprofit, nongovernmental, or tribal organization, or governmental entity in a State other than a Territory that provides intervention and related assistance, as specified in section [12511\(b\)\(2\)\(C\)](#) of this title, to victims of sexual assault without regard to their age.

In the case of a governmental entity, the entity may not be part of the criminal justice system (such as a law enforcement agency) and must be able to offer a comparable level of confidentiality as a nonprofit entity that provides similar victim services.

Source: [34 USC §12291](#)

AND

A member of the network of sexual assault programs supported by the Nebraska Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence.

For grant application purposes, the DSV program type also means the Nebraska Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence.

Other Programs Types

Victim Service Programs that do not align with the definitions above will be categorized as "Other."

Appendix E: NCC Grant Project Problem-Solving Process

Overview | Problem-Solving Process

Grantees are encouraged to use the [DMAIC \(Define, Measure, Analyze, Improve, Control\) Methodology](#) to support continued quality improvement. This is supported through the identification of problems/issues/needs to be addressed, selection/definition of a solution to address the problem, designation of a series of actionable intervention strategies to enact the solution, and regular assessment of measurable outputs that indicate progress toward problem resolution. Grantees will document the problem-solving process of their grant project by completing the following steps in the *Application Performance Measures Spreadsheet*. Grantees will report their progress to NCC on a quarterly basis.

Problem Statement & Strategic Areas

From the description of the social problem(s), community issue(s), and/or community need(s) your victim service program/grant project will address identified in the application template, clearly define 2-3 items as problem statements. Each problem statement should be associated with a strategic area.

Level 1. What are you trying to address?

EXAMPLE:

Strategic Area: Housing and Shelter

1) Our community lacks adequate housing and shelter services for victims of sex trafficking.

Solution Statement (Goals)

For each problem statement, clearly define 1-3 ways your victim service program/grant project will address how this problem as your solution statements.

Level 2. How can this problem be addressed?

EXAMPLE:

1) Our community lacks adequate housing and shelter services for victims of sex trafficking.

2) Ensure the stability of survivor's future housing.

2) Provide access to safe nights

Intervention Strategies (Objectives)

For each solution statement, clearly define 3-5 specific, actionable intervention strategies that will be implemented by your victim service program/grant project to bring about these solutions.

Level 3. What will you do to fix it?

EXAMPLE:

- 1) Our community lacks adequate housing and shelter services for victims of sex trafficking.
 - 2) Ensure the stability of survivor's future housing.
 - 3) **Become proficient in navigating the Section 8 housing system by attending HUD training.**
 - 3) **Provide financial education and budget training support services to increase victim/survivor ability to navigate the Section 8 housing system.**
 - 3) **Coordinate relocation efforts from shelter to permanent housing**
 - 2) Provide access to safe nights
 - 3) **Operate a family-centered emergency shelter for victims/survivors of sex trafficking**
 - 3) **Provide additional capacity via emergency hotel vouchers**
 - 3) **Guide victims/survivors in developing a safety plan.**

Performance Measures (Outputs)

For each intervention strategy, list 1-3 performance measures that will indicate either reduction of the problem or enhancement of the solution, as brought about by your intervention strategies.

Level 4. How will you measure your impact?

EXAMPLE:

- 1) Our community lacks adequate housing and shelter services for victims of sex trafficking.
 - 2) Ensure the stability of survivor's future housing.
 - 3) Become proficient in navigating the Section 8 housing system by attending HUD training.
 - 4) **Number of training or education events attended by staff**
 - 3) Provide financial education and budget training support services to increase victim/survivor ability to navigate the Section 8 housing system.
 - 4) **Number of budgeting and financial education support instances**
 - 4) **Number of individuals served through budgeting and financial education support instances**
 - 3) Coordinate relocation efforts from shelter to permanent housing
 - 4) **Number of relocation assistance instances**
 - 4) **Number of individuals served through relocation assistance**
 - 4) **Number of individuals who left shelter for permanent housing**
 - 2) Provide access to safe nights
 - 3) Operate a family-centered emergency shelter for victims/survivors of sex trafficking
 - 4) **Number of instances emergency shelter or safe house provided**
 - 4) **Number of individuals served through emergency shelter or safe house**
 - 3) Provide additional capacity via emergency hotel vouchers
 - 4) **Number of instances emergency shelter or safe house provided**
 - 4) **Number of individuals served through emergency shelter or safe house**

3) Guide victims/survivors in developing a safety plan.

4) Number of instances of safety planning victims/survivors of sex trafficking.

Victim Services Performance Measures

A standardized list of SASP Performance Measures is in development at the time of release of this RFA. Please check back for updates.