

Alaska Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP) Information Session: Wednesday, August 28, 2024

Questions and Answers (Q&A)

Overview

The following Q&A document provides responses to questions posed at the HVRP Information Session intended for organizations serving Alaska held on August 28, 2024. Questions have been synthesized for clarity.

Q&A

Q: If awarded the HVRP grant, is the funding provided based on a proposed budget submitted by the applicant, or is there a predetermined amount allowed per grant recipient?

A: When applying for HVRP, the applicant must provide a one-year budget that cannot exceed an amount specified in the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) in total costs (direct and indirect) that supports the targeted population and the service delivery area(s) (SDA). If selected, the awardee will be provided funding based on this one-year budget. There is no predetermined amount allowed per grant recipient.

Q: Is the HVRP grant focused on removing barriers to employment and training, or funding employment and training directly?

A: Both! HVRP grant recipients provide their veteran participants with several core services intended to address the complex employment-related requirements and supports necessary to meet the needs of this population through direct services or a robust referral system. These core services include client-centered case management services designed to address barriers, job-driven training, and placement. HVRP resources can be utilized to remove barriers and provide employment and training services directly.

Q: Is funding available to provide outreach, engagement, and follow-up services, or is funding only meant to support job training and addressing barriers?

A: HVRP grant recipients are expected to engage in or provide all the aforementioned services: outreach/engagement with veterans, resource partners and employers, addressing barriers to employment, job training, and follow-up services for 12 months after placement into employment. Therefore, funding can be used to support the provision of these services by HVRP staff. However, it should be noted that a participant support cost may only be provided to participants to enable their participation in HVRP services and must be tied to a specific HVRP service; it is not intended to meet every need of the participant. Furthermore, the specific type and amount of

resources available to carry out these services is dependent on each grant’s Budget Narrative, which offers a description of costs associated with each object class cost category.

Q: Are staff salaries an allowable expense?

A: Yes! Staff salaries are an allowable expense. During the HVRP application process, the applicant will propose a Budget Narrative that includes personnel costs. This will include staff positions and titles, responsibilities, annual salary, etc.

Q: Are supervisor salaries an allowable expense, or are direct service providers the only staff able to be included in the budget for this grant?

A: Supervisor salaries are an allowable expense. During the HVRP application process, the applicant will propose a Budget Narrative that includes the staff positions they see as necessary to operate the grant, which can include direct service staff and supervisors/management.

Q: Is there a minimum number of clients that must be served or connected to employment to maintain compliance?

A: When applying for HVRP, the applicant will propose performance goals in their Project Narrative, including indicators for the number of clients enrolled/served and rate of placement into employment. While no minimum thresholds are mandated for these goals, they should be realistic and programmatically aligned. Furthermore, proposing very low targets may decrease the competitiveness of the application. Historically, the FOA provides national averages for each required performance indicator to guide applicants when defining their goals.

If awarded, the HVRP grant recipient will be held to the performance goals submitted in their application, including number of participants enrolled and rate of placement into employment, and must report quarterly on the progress toward their goals throughout the three-year period of performance. Failure to meet performance goals may result in the grantor agency placing additional requirements on the award recipient that are designed to remedy non-compliance with the grant’s terms and conditions and poor project performance. The inability to achieve performance goals may also have a significant impact on future awards.

Q: Are legal expenses an allowable cost? For example, providing a veteran with a private attorney.

A: The grant recipient would need to include legal expenses in their Budget Narrative and ensure the legal expenses are necessary and reasonable for the performance of the federal award and must be allocable under the cost principles in [2 Code of Federal Regulations \(C.F.R.\) § 200.459](#) and [2 C.F.R. § 200.435](#). A cost is “necessary” if it meets the program objective of obtaining employment and is necessary and reasonable for the performance of the HVRP. A cost is “reasonable” if it meets the “prudent person” standard in [2 C.F.R. § 200.404](#).

Q: Does HVRP allow for subgrant recipients?

A: Yes! One organization must apply for the HVRP grant. This organization's name, employer identification number (EIN), and unique entity identifier (UEI) must appear on the Standard Form (SF)-424. If selected for an award, the applicant is responsible for complying with all federal award requirements, per [2 C.F.R. § 200.300\(b\)](#). The applicant/recipient may partner with other organizations, which may include for profit entities, to support the successful reintegration of veterans experiencing homelessness into the labor force.

Applicants may propose in their application under the Project and Budget Narrative that they plan to have a partner classified as a contractor or subrecipient. Guidance in determining the categorization may be found at [2 C.F.R. § 200.331](#). The applicant/recipient is responsible for determining a partner's classification as a contractor or subrecipient, if applicable. The applicant should describe and categorize the proposed partnerships in their Project Narrative.

The Uniform Guidance stipulates that the classification of a subrecipient must be based on function and substance per the criteria outlined in [2 C.F.R. § 200.331](#). A subrecipient may not earn or keep any profit resulting from federal financial assistance unless explicitly authorized by the terms and conditions of the federal award, per [2 C.F.R. § 200.400\(g\)](#). The HVRP [Terms and Conditions](#) do not authorize recipients or subrecipients to earn or keep a profit. A recipient is responsible for ensuring a subrecipient's services exclude profit.

Q: What distinguishes HVRP from other grants like Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) and Grant Per Diem (GPD) programs?

A: SSVF and GPD are grants offered by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) that assist homeless and/or at-risk veterans with finding and maintaining housing. HVRP is an employment-focused competitive grant program of the Department of Labor, Veterans' Employment and Training Service (DOL/VETS), the only federal grant to focus exclusively on competitive employment for veterans experiencing homelessness. HVRP offers organizations funding to provide career exploration, training, placement and supportive services to veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness tailored to their SDA. HVRP grant recipients are also provided training, technical assistance, support services, and resources to operate a successful grant.