

Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP) Information Session: Wednesday, May 7, 2025

Questions and Answers (Q&A)

Overview

The following Q&A document provides responses to questions posed at the HVRP Information Session intended for U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Housing/Homelessness Grant Programs held on May 7, 2025. Questions have been synthesized for clarity.

Q&A

Q1: Has HVRP made decisions regarding the Program Year (PY) 2025 Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA)? The website is not updated with new grant recipients.

A1: As of June 27, 2025, the PY25 HVRP awards have been announced. Information about new grant recipients is available in the [U.S. Department of Labor press release](#). Information about grants awarded in previous years that have received continued funding is available [in this press release](#).

Q2: Can salaries be paid out of this grant?

A2: 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. For more information, please consider watching our microlearning on the subject at [PY25 HVRP FOA: Completing the Budget Narrative's Personnel and Fringe Benefits Sections](#).

Q3: Can HVRP grant recipients subcontract for rural services?

A3: Yes, HVRP does allow for subrecipients. 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. For more information, please consider watching our microlearning on the subject at [PY25 HVRP FOA: Completing the Budget Narrative's Contractual & Construction Sections](#).

Q4: Other than receiving an eviction notice, what circumstances would qualify a veteran as “at risk of homelessness” (i.e., low income, no job)? What are the income requirements for an individual to be considered at risk of homelessness?

A4: A veteran receiving an eviction notice is just one example of how an individual can fall into the eligibility categories required to meet the “at risk of homelessness” definition:

1. Veterans who are at risk of homelessness within 15–60 days from the date of HVRP enrollment (veterans who are at risk of homelessness within 14 days are considered at “imminent risk” and are defined as homeless); and
2. Veterans recently released (within the last 18 months from the date of HVRP enrollment) from incarceration who are at risk of homelessness.

The term “veteran at risk of homelessness” means meeting at least one of the following criteria:

- Veterans who meet the criterion for extremely low income;¹ or
- Veteran recipients of welfare and/or public assistance;² or
- Veterans referred from the following VA programs:
 - Substance Use Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program, or
 - Domiciliary Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Programs (DRRTP), or
 - Veterans Justice Outreach Program – VA Homeless Programs, or
 - Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Residential Rehabilitation and Treatment Program, or
 - Compensated Work Therapy/Transitional Residence Programs; or
- Veterans who are at risk of losing their current housing with no alternative safe housing options immediately available to prevent them from moving to an emergency shelter or another place described in the homeless definition (i.e., will enter emergency shelter,

¹Extremely Low Income: HUD sets family income limits for its housing programs, including an extremely low income (ELI) limit. ELI families are generally defined as very low-income families whose incomes do not exceed the greater of 30 percent of the median family income for the area or the federal poverty guidelines as published by the Department of Health and Human Services. HVRP grant recipients will find the most recent ELI limits available for the veteran's geographic location and family size on the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) [HUD Income Limits](#) page.

²VETS defines a welfare and/or public assistance recipient as an individual who, during the program year, receives or is a member of a family who receives, cash, welfare, or public assistance payments under a federal, state, or local program.

including Emergency Housing Assistance or Safe Haven, transitional housing, or a place not meant for human habitation).

For complete details on the definition of and documentation of at risk of homelessness status, see [Veterans' Program Letter \(VPL\) 06-24](#).

Q5: Are there resources specifically for veterans on the sex offender registry?

A5: HVRP is open to serving veterans regardless of their criminal background or conviction history if they meet HVRP eligibility requirements. While HVRP does not have resources specifically tailored for individuals on the sex offense registry, it does provide targeted support for justice-involved veterans more broadly. This includes access to tailored job training, employment assistance, and reintegration services designed to address the unique barriers faced by veterans with criminal records. HVRP also offers housing costs for veterans transitioning from certain institutions, including penal institutions. Furthermore, HVRP grant recipients are able and encouraged to collaborate with community organizations that support justice-involved individuals, strengthening the network of care and expanding access to specialized resources. For more information, please review our targeted resource webpage at [Serving Justice-Involved Veterans – National Veterans' Technical Assistance Center](#).

The U.S. Department of Labor, Veterans' Employment and Training Service (DOL/VETS) funds three types of competitive grants. Organizations interested in working with this population specifically can apply for the Incarcerated Veterans' Transition Program (IVTP), which focuses on veterans who are involved in the justice system or are moving on from certain institutions.

Q6: If there are no grant recipients nearby, but there are some located in adjoining counties, would collaboration be able to happen virtually (i.e., phone call, Zoom)?

A6: External organizations are encouraged to collaborate with their local HVRP. This can include collaborating virtually to brainstorm, share resources, plan events, expand community connections, etc. However, to refer a veteran for HVRP services, that individual must be within the HVRP grant recipient's approved service delivery area (SDA). It is always recommended to make the connection in case you encounter a veteran in need that would fall within that HVRP's SDA. Organizations can locate an active HVRP grant recipient at [Active HVRP Grants – National Veterans' Technical Assistance Center](#).

Q7: How are these services different from outside employment guidance?

A7: HVRP is an employment-focused competitive grant program of 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 likewise provided with training, technical assistance, support services, and resources to operate a successful grant.

Q8: Can you pay rent for veterans if you have an Incarcerated Veterans Transition Program (IVTP) grant?

A8: HVRP and IVTP grant recipients operate under the same rules and requirements for participant support costs, including what is considered an allowable cost. The primary distinction between the two is the specific population of veterans they serve. As a result, both programs permit the use of funds for housing costs, but only for eligible participants who meet the definition of a veteran who is transitioning from certain institutions, in accordance with [38 U.S.C. § 2023](#).

Grant recipients expending HVRP funds for housing assistance must exhaust other housing options, such as those offered by penal institutions, community-based housing providers, or other housing assistance options, before identifying grant funds for this purpose. This must be documented in the participant case file. The use of grant funds for housing assistance is limited to 90 days, and the amount of assistance must meet the test of rent reasonableness. For full details, see [VPL 06-24](#).

Q9: When will the 2026 FOA be announced on Grants.gov?

A9: The HVRP application cycle has not been determined. For organizations interested in applying under the 2026 FOA, continually check Grants.gov for the PY26 HVRP FOA Forecasted Opportunity. Once the Forecast is available, you can subscribe to receive notifications when changes are made to the Forecast and when the Synopsis (Announcement) is released by clicking on the red “Subscribe” button on that webpage. For additional information, please consider watching the Grants.gov microlearning [Intro to Grants.gov – How to Search for a Federal Grant](#). The National Veterans’ Technical Assistance Center (NVTAC) will also send an email to our mailing list when the FOA is released. Please subscribe to the NVTAC mailing list by contacting NVTAC@dol.gov.

Q10: We serve over 75 veterans in several shelter programs. If we received the grant, would we receive HVRP referrals for veterans outside of those we already serve?

A10: As long as they meet HVRP eligibility requirements, HVRP can serve veterans from any source (internal or external) and accept referrals from outside partners (i.e., nonprofits, homeless shelters, veteran service organizations). [VPL 06-24](#) specifically states that a person may qualify for HVRP services if the individual meets the HVRP definition of a veteran and is participating in the partner services such as:

- a. HUD-VASH or Tribal HUD-VASH,
- b. Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act of 1996, or
- c. Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) (Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) or Prevention).

Q11: What if a veteran is outside of our SDA but they are not being serviced by any other HVRP program and there are none in the area?

A11: An HVRP grant recipient may only enroll and provide services to a veteran in their approved SDA. However, they can refer veterans to appropriate resources local to them, such as an American Job Center (AJC). This underscores the importance of collaboration and network building, both to support current participants and to assist ineligible veterans they may encounter. To find an American Job Center near you, please see [American Job Center Finder | CareerOneStop](#).

Q12: If we host a job training session, could this grant also cover a light breakfast or lunch for trainees?

A12: Meals may be allowable for job training sessions providing services to grant participants; however, grant recipients are encouraged to evaluate this expenditure with the utmost discretion. Recipients should consider the following questions in the determination:

- How does the purchase meet the requirements outlined in the Uniform Guidance under [Basic Cost Considerations](#), in particular [2 C.F.R. § 200.403](#) (eight factors of allowability) and [2 C.F.R. § 200.404](#) (cost reasonableness).
- How does the purchase of food align with the objectives/goals of the program in which the federal funds were awarded and is it necessary and reasonable for meeting those objectives/goals?
- What are the perceived optics of this proposed expenditure?

Q13: Is there a reason why not all states seem to be eligible on the saturation map? I work on a state line and wonder if we could provide HVRP services for our participants that live in both Oregon as well as Washington.

A13: Historically, all U.S. states and the U.S. Territories and Possessions are eligible to apply for HVRP. The [SDA Saturation Map](#) includes gray areas that currently have no HVRP grant recipients. This does not mean providers are prohibited from applying to serve these areas, only that no one has done so in recent years. In some cases, entire states may lack HVRP grant recipients, or existing grants may only cover parts of a state, resulting in gaps in services as shown in the Service Gap Map tab.

An organization can propose to serve veterans in any number of states/territories in the Abstract form, but their one-year budget cannot exceed an amount specified in the FOA in total costs (direct and indirect) that supports the targeted population and their proposed SDAs. The organization will need to identify each state or territory in which the grant will operate, as well as

relevant counties, parishes, independent cities,³ and/or Native American tribal areas. Conversely, an organization could submit multiple applications for the same SDA that is undersaturated if the need is justified.

Q14: What is the lowest and highest level of funding applicants should consider for the 3-year award?

A14: Each HVRP FOA Forecast will specify the award ceiling and floor. For more information on locating future HVRP FOA Forecasts, see Q9.

Q15: Would HVRP cover personalized items when we purchase things for our recipients? For example, buying a mouse pad that has something the participant likes (i.e., a dog, pictures).

A15: A participant support cost is allowed only when incurred to enable an eligible veteran's participation in HVRP services and must be tied to a specific HVRP service. It must be reasonable and necessary to help the participant engage in services and activities related to the employment plan, and consistent with the organization's approved Budget Narrative. For specific guidance on participant support costs, please see [VPL 06-24](#).

Q16: What qualifies as proof of eligibility?

A16: To participate in HVRP, an individual must be a veteran and either experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness or participating in a qualifying partner service or transitioning from certain institutions and in need of or would benefit from employment services. To provide HVRP services, grant recipients must collect, in an individual's participant case file, source documentation of eligibility. [VPL-06-24](#) lays out a six-step process for determining eligibility for the purposes of HVRP, as well as documentation requirements.

Q17: If you don't utilize all of the HVRP funding, will that roll over into the next fiscal year, or is it lost?

A17: The HVRP grant has a three-year period of performance (PoP), which is incrementally funded annually at the beginning of each program year. VETS provides the year-one funding at the time of award. Annual increments, if requested, are subject to the availability of federal funding. If approved, they will be provided in years two and three of the three-year PoP. Any remaining funds unexpended by the end of the first and second year of the PoP remain available for use until they have been fully expended, or until the end of the grant's PoP, whichever occurs first. [VPL 03-24](#) states: Funding increments issued in a prior year but expended in a subsequent year are referred to as "carryover funding." Grant recipients must use carryover funding on a

³ County, parish, or independent cities are based on the U.S. Census Bureau's County and County Equivalent Entities tables found in the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), Federal Information Processing Series ([ANSI and FIPS Codes](#)) at the United States Census Bureau.

first-in, first-out (FIFO) basis, prioritizing the charging of expenditures to any remaining funding attached to the earliest awarded increment.

Q18: If the founder or CEO of an organization is supporting HVRP operations, can their salary be paid through HVRP funds, or do salaries only include direct service staff?

A18: Yes, salaries are an allowable expense. A founder/CEO can be paid through HVRP funds proportional to their contributions to the program. 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 management. However, none of the funds appropriated under the heading “Veterans’ Employment and Training Service” in the appropriation statute(s) may be used by a recipient or subrecipient of such funds to pay the salary and bonuses of an individual, either as direct costs or indirect costs, at a rate in excess of Executive Level II. The Executive Level II salary may change yearly and is located on the [OPM.gov](https://www.opm.gov) website.

Q19: What is a Grant Officer’s Technical Representative (GOTR)?

A19: A GOTR is an individual serving on behalf of the Grant Officer to maintain and ensure the integrity of the approved grant agreement. This is done by reviewing applications and making recommendations regarding technical matters of the grant. They serve as the primary point of contact for HVRP grant recipients when a question or issue arises, especially related to eligibility, allowable costs, and quarterly reporting. They review quarterly performance and financial reports, conduct site visits for technical assistance (TA) or compliance monitoring, facilitate the processing of grant modifications, verify grant activities are conducted in compliance with the Grant Agreement and applicable federal regulations, track grant recipient progress toward program goals, and assess the quality of HVRP services.

Q20: Are HVRP grant recipients required to spend the same amount of money for all participants?

A20: No. The participant support costs expended per veteran will vary widely, depending on that individual’s circumstances, employment goals, training needs, etc. However, grant recipients must maintain written procedures, i.e., Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), to ensure participant support costs and participant incentive costs are implemented and executed consistently. For specific guidance on participant support costs, please see [VPL 06-24](#).