

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR (DOL)

Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS)

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

ANNOUNCEMENT (FOA) FOR: Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP), Incarcerated Veterans' Transition Program (IVTP), and the Homeless Women Veterans and Homeless Veterans with Children Reintegration Grant Program (HWVHWC) (referred to collectively as HVRP)

ANNOUNCEMENT TYPE: Initial

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY NUMBER: FOA-VETS-26-01

ASSISTANCE LISTING NUMBER: 17.805

Submit all applications in response to this solicitation through [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov).

FUNDING DETAIL:

Expected Total Available Funding	\$23,000,000
Expected Number of Awards	61
Funding Range Per Award	\$150,000 – \$500,000 annually. Up to \$1,500,000 for the three-year period of performance.

Awards made under this Announcement are subject to the availability of federal funds. Annual funding increments will be provided in years two and three of the period of performance, subject to the availability of federal funding, annual submission of required documents, the recipient's rate of expenditure, and satisfactory progress toward project goals. Final congressional appropriations action has not yet been taken. We are accepting applications to allow enough time to complete the grant award process, should Congress appropriate funds for this program. If additional funds become available, we reserve the right to use such funds to select additional grant recipients from successful applications submitted in response to this Announcement. DOL/VETS may increase or decrease award amounts to successful applicants to maximize the use of available funding. DOL/VETS may increase or decrease the budget period within the period of performance, depending on the availability of funds, under this FOA.

KEY DATES:

Application Deadline	March 6, 2026. Applications must be received no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time.
Expected Period of Performance Start Date	July 1, 2026
Period of Performance Length	36 months with an anticipated start date of July 1, 2026, and an end date of June 30, 2029.

Prospective Applicant Webinar	<p>Join us for a Prospective Applicant Webinar on Tuesday, January 27, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time and again on Wednesday, February 25, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time. While attendance is recommended, it is not required. Both sessions will share the same information. During the webinar, you will learn about the HVRP program and the PY26 FOA. We will share important details regarding who can apply, how to apply, what documents you need to complete, deadlines, and whom to contact for more information. You will also have the chance to ask questions. After the webinars, DOL/VETS will release a detailed Question and Answer (Q&A) document that addresses the questions asked. Additionally, you can watch a recording of the webinar and read the Q&A on the Prospective HVRP Applicant Resources – National Veterans’ Technical Assistance Center website. Click the link below to register for the respective session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday, January 27, 2026, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. ET • Wednesday, February 25, 2026, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. ET
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The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA) is responsible for the grant award process of this Veterans’ Employment and Training Service (VETS) funding opportunity announcement.

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The U.S. Department of Labor, Veterans’ Employment and Training Service (DOL/VETS), announces the availability of grant funds authorized under Title 38 United States Code (U.S.C.) Sections 2021, 2021A, and 2023 for the Homeless Veterans’ Reintegration Program (HVRP).

HVRP is an employment-focused, competitive federal grant program intended to enable veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness reach their full employment potential and obtain high-quality career outcomes. HVRP is aligned with the priorities set forth by the [President’s Executive Orders](#) to deliver comprehensive employment services to eligible veterans to assist these veterans in transitioning from homelessness to stable employment and to connect them with high-paying, skilled job opportunities that will shape the workforce of the future.

Faith-based organizations are encouraged to apply. Those that meet the eligibility requirements may receive awards under this funding opportunity. DOL will not, in the selection of recipients and administration of the grant, discriminate on the basis of an organization’s religious character, affiliation, exercise, or lack thereof, or on the basis of conduct that would not be considered grounds to favor or disfavor a similarly situated secular organization.

For further information or technical questions about this FOA, please send an email to HVRPFOA@dol.gov and specifically reference FOA-VETS-26-01. This Announcement is available at [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov).

II. AWARD INFORMATION

A. Eligible Applicants

Eligible Organizations

DOL/VETS defines an organization by the Employer Identification Number (EIN) that **must** match the legal name in the System for Award Management ([SAM.gov](https://sam.gov)) and the legal name on the application’s SF-424. The EIN is the organization identifier of record. The Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) is not the organization identifier of record.

The following organizations are eligible to apply:

- State governments

- County governments
- City or township governments
- Special district governments
- Public and State-controlled institutions of higher education
- Native American tribal governments (federally recognized)
- Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities
- Native American tribal organizations (other than federally recognized tribal governments)
- Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- Nonprofits without 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- Private institutions of higher education
- For-profit organizations other than small businesses
- Small businesses
- U.S. Territories or Possessions
- Native American Tribally Designated Organizations
- State and Local Workforce Development Boards (SWDB/LWDB) established under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)
- Faith-based organizations
- Other State and Local Government Agencies

Faith-based organizations are encouraged to apply. Those that meet the eligibility requirements may receive awards under this funding opportunity. DOL will not, in the selection of recipients and administration of the grant, discriminate on the basis of an organization's religious character, affiliation, exercise, or lack thereof, or on the basis of conduct that would not be considered grounds to favor or disfavor a similarly situated secular organization.

Among eligible applicants listed above, the applicant agency or organization **must** also maintain a physical location in the proposed Service Delivery Area (SDA). Please see Section IV.C.1 for more information about the physical location.

Any organization whose federal grant was terminated, as described in [2 C.F.R. § 200.340](#), before the expiration of the period of performance (PoP) established by that grant's FOA will be ineligible to apply for any HVRP FOA for a three-year period (e.g. FOA-VETS-26-01, FOA-VETS-27-01, and/or FOA-VETS 28-01) following the termination date, unless the termination was due to unanticipated circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the grant recipient (e.g., natural disaster). A termination is defined as an action initiated by either the grant recipient or the awarding federal agency that terminated the grant prior to the conclusion of the PoP.

B. Application Categories Based on Population Served

DOL/VETS funds three types of competitive grant categories. The categories are listed below:

1. Category 1: HVRP includes applicants who propose to serve veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Under this category, applicants may serve populations eligible under all three categories.

2. Category 2: The Homeless Women Veterans and Homeless Veterans with Children Reintegration Program (HWVHVWC) is specifically for homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children. HWVHVWC includes applicants that want to use 100 percent of their grant funding to serve homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children, which is defined in [38 U.S.C. § 101\(4\)](#).
3. Category 3: Incarcerated Veterans' Transition Program (IVTP) focuses on veterans who are involved in the justice system or are moving on from certain institutions. IVTP includes applicants that want to use 100 percent of their grant funding to serve the following populations:
 - a. Veterans described in [38 U.S.C. § 2023\(d\)](#) who are transitioning from certain institutions or any other veterans who are transitioning from being incarcerated, meaning they are scheduled to be released from incarceration or an institution within 18 months (at the time of enrollment in HVRP).
 - b. Veterans recently released (within the last 18 months from the date of HVRP enrollment) from incarceration who are at risk of homelessness.

These programs are collectively referred to as HVRP, and this announcement applies to all of them.

DOL/VETS intends to make at least one Category 2 grant award and at least one Category 3 grant award, if we receive competitive applications in those categories.

Applicants **must identify** in the *Abstract (tab 1 in Attachment A)* whether the Grant Type is Category 1 (HVRP), Category 2 (HWVHVWC), or Category 3 (IVTP). The application will be reviewed under Category 1 (HVRP) if you do not explicitly identify a category. No additional changes or discussions of this population category will occur during or after the competition. See Section IV.C.1.a Statement of Need for additional information.

See Section III.E Eligible Participants for additional information.

C. Service Delivery Areas (SDA)

1. Saturation Level Affecting Services

DOL/VETS is committed to developing an appropriate distribution of HVRP funds to serve the most veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Thus, DOL/VETS will consider the saturation levels of grant recipients versus the homeless veteran population in each geographical area to ensure services are within saturation limits.

DOL/VETS has an [SDA Saturation Map](#) of every Continuum of Care ([CoC](#)) that HVRP grant recipients serve. The saturation level is calculated by dividing the total number of HVRP planned enrollments in the [CoC](#) by the most recent [HUD PIT Count](#) for the number of veterans experiencing homelessness. [CoCs](#) with saturation levels of 100 percent or more indicate that current HVRP grant recipients are already planning to enroll more participants than the estimated number of veterans experiencing homelessness for the [CoC](#). Applicants should be aware that requesting an oversaturated SDA may result in your grant failing to meet the enrollment goals you create in the *PY26 Planned Goals Chart (tab 4 in Attachment A)*.

DOL/VETS will look at the applicant's proposed SDA's saturation levels and planned enrollments served by an active grant in the same [CoC](#). Applicants proposing to serve a [CoC](#) with a saturation level of 120 percent or more **must** justify the existence of unmet demand in the *Abstract (tab 3 in Attachment A)*. Failure to provide justification for a saturation level of 120 percent or more for the [CoCs](#) where at least 50 percent of Planned Enrollments are allocated **will result in scoring zero points** for the Expected Outcomes and Outputs criteria. Saturation levels are available in the *Abstract (tab 2 in Attachment A)* "Planned Enrollments by CoC – Current Saturation Level" column or in the HVRP FOA SDA Saturation Map.

In rare metropolitan geographic locations, the SDA may be undersaturated and may allow for **multiple applications** providing services in different parts of the SDA (e.g., the Eastside and San Fernando Valley of Los Angeles, or Queens and the Lower East Side of New York City). **Regardless of the category type**, if DOL/VETS receives **multiple applications** from the same organization (having the same EIN) with the **same SDA** proposed in your *Abstract (Attachment A)*, that organization **must** explain how the same SDA justifies multiple applications in the *Abstract (tab 3 in Attachment A)*. If there is no justification in the *Abstract (Attachment A)*, the application will be considered duplicate; therefore, only that organization's most recently received application that meets the submission deadline will be considered.

If you are a current HVRP grant recipient and your PoP **ends on June 30, 2027, or June 30, 2028**, the application's proposed SDA must not include **more than 25 percent** of the counties in your current grant's SDA; if it exceeds this limit, the application will be **disqualified**. For example:

- Current grant's SDA has four (4) counties (Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, and Delta)
- Application's SDA proposes to serve three (3) counties (Charlie, Delta, and Echo)
- The application's SDA contains 50 percent of counties in the current grant's SDA: two (2) duplicate counties in application's SDA / four (4) total counties in the current grant's SDA = 50 percent

The following counties/[CoCs](#) are exempt from the 25 percent SDA calculation for a current grant: Los Angeles County, CA (CA-600); King County, WA (WA-500); and San Diego County, CA (CA-601).

If the application's proposed SDA counties overlap at less than 25 percent of your current grant's SDA, the applicant **must** justify the need for an additional grant in the *Abstract (tab 3 in Attachment A)*. Applicants **must** justify that the proposed service areas will not duplicate existing services. Failure to provide justification for SDA counties that overlap at **more than zero percent and less than 25 percent** of your current grant's SDA **will result in scoring zero points** for the Expected Outcomes and Outputs criteria.

2. Number of Applications Applicants May Submit

Organizations may submit multiple applications; however, each application **must** be for a different SDA, except for those applications that are providing services in different locations of the same SDA. Regardless of the category type, if DOL/VETS receives **multiple applications** from the same organization, DOL/VETS will not award more than \$1,000,000 annually per organization for FOA-VETS-26-01, consistent with [Executive Order 14332, Improving Oversight of Federal Grantmaking](#), which directs agencies to award grants to a broad range of

recipients rather than to a select group of “repeat players.” VETS may award more than this amount if additional funds become available.

D. Period of Performance

The performance period on the front page of this FOA includes all necessary implementation and start-up activities.

E. Cost Sharing

This program does not require cost sharing. Including such funds is not one of the application screening criteria, and applications that include any form of cost sharing will not receive special consideration during the review process. Instead, the agency considers any resources contributed to the project beyond the funds provided by the agency as leveraged resources.

For a complete understanding of this application requirement, see the [2025 Application Guide](#), Section II.B Cost Sharing.

III. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

A. Purpose

This announcement solicits applications for HVRP, IVTP, and HWVHVWC (referred to collectively as HVRP) and aligns with the federal grantmaking guidance in [Executive Order 14332, Improving Oversight of Federal Grantmaking](#).

Each year, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), in collaboration with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), conducts a physical count of the number of veterans, both sheltered and unsheltered, experiencing homelessness on a single night. This count is referred to as the Point in Time (PIT) Count. According to the [2024 HUD Annual Homelessness Assessment Report \(AHAR\)](#), on one night in January 2024, 32,882 veterans experienced homelessness. This number is an eight percent decrease from the January 2023 PIT Count.

To help address the number of veterans who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, DOL/VETS requires HVRP grant recipients to provide services tailored to each veteran’s needs using a case management approach. Grant recipients **must** help connect veterans to supportive services available in their local communities. In addition, grant recipients **must** also help veterans successfully return to work by providing job training services that support their needs. This can be done by providing direct help or by creating a strong referral system that includes tools, resources, and partnerships that identify, find, prepare, and support veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness so they can reach their full employment potential.

DOL/VETS encourages applicants to serve eligible veterans in rural areas that will improve access to essential resources, foster community engagement, and overcome employment barriers to secure employment in stable, high-demand occupations.

The [HVRP](#) website, the [Prospective HVRP Applicant Resources](#) website, the [2025 HVRP Program Guide](#), and [Veterans’ Program Letter \(VPL\) 06-24 HVRP Requirements and Functions](#) provide useful information about program requirements.

B. Program Goals and Objectives

1. Deliver career exploration opportunities, placement, and supportive services to veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness, empowering them to secure employment in stable, high-demand occupations paying wages consistent with the relevant market.
2. Establish strong partnerships with public, private, and nonprofit organizations to assist veterans in overcoming barriers to employment.
3. Provide job-driven training targeted at in-demand occupations to enable veterans to become employable or seek a higher employment grade.

HVRP grant recipients accomplish these goals through a variety of [core services](#), such as outreach, intake, assessment, case management, job-driven training, placement, follow-up, and collaboration.

C. Expected Performance Outcomes

The expected performance outcomes are described in the VETS-704 Form – *Planned Goals Chart (tab 4 in Attachment A)*, which is a required application component published with this FOA.

D. Funding Type

Funding will be provided in the form of a Grant. Throughout this FOA, all references to grants are applicable to cooperative agreements.

E. Eligible Participants

HVRP provides services to veterans experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness.

According to [38 U.S.C. § 2021](#), veterans served by this program include the following categories:

- a. Homeless veterans, including:
 1. Veterans who were homeless but found housing during the 60-day period preceding the date of HVRP enrollment; and
 2. Veterans who, at the time of enrollment in HVRP, are at risk of homelessness within the next 60 days.
- b. Veterans participating in a HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program for which rental assistance is provided pursuant to section 8(o)(19) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 ([42 U.S.C. § 1437f\(o\)\(19\)](#)) or the Tribal HUD-VA Supportive Housing (Tribal HUD-VASH) program;
- c. Veterans who are receiving assistance under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 ([25 U.S.C. § 4101](#) et seq.);
- d. Veterans described in [38 U.S.C. § 2023\(d\)](#) or any other veterans who are transitioning from being incarcerated; and
- e. Veterans participating in the VA rapid rehousing and/or prevention program authorized in [38 U.S.C. § 2044](#).

Annual appropriation acts may authorize HVRP grant recipients to serve other veteran populations at risk of homelessness. As of this publication, Congress has authorized HVRP grant recipients to serve the following population:

- Veterans recently released from incarceration who are at risk of homelessness.

Please refer to [VPL 06-24 HVRP Requirements and Functions](#), or the most current guidance on this topic, for more information on eligibility definitions.

F. Program Authority

The following statutes authorize this program:

Title 38 U.S.C. Sections 2021, 2021A, and 2023 and the Public Law under which Program Year (PY) 2026 funding is appropriated for this program.

G. Definitions

For definitions applicable to this FOA, please refer to the [HVRP Glossary of Terms](#).

H. Funding Restrictions, Policies, and Limitations

All proposed project costs **must** be necessary and reasonable and in accordance with federal guidelines.

For a complete understanding of this application requirement, see the [2025 Application Guide](#), Section III.H Funding Restrictions, Policies, and Limitations.

Evaluation and Data-Related Costs

Labor and other costs related to data and evaluation are allowable, as defined in 2 C.F.R. § 200.455. Data and evaluation activities may include staff participating in interviews, focus groups, and surveys; staff working to execute data sharing agreements; staff preparing datasets required for an evaluation; staff participating in evaluation meetings; and other costs related to DOL's evaluations and data-related activities.

Salary and Bonus Limitations

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 website](#). This limitation does not apply to contractors (vendors) providing goods and services as defined in 2 C.F.R. § 200.331. Where states are recipients of such funds, states may establish a lower limit for salaries and bonuses paid by subrecipients. To establish these limits, states may consider the relative cost of living in the state, the salary levels for comparable state or local government employees, and the size of the organizations that administer federal programs involved, including VETS programs. See Section I.B and the Program Authority found in [Training and Employment Guidance Letter \(TEGL\) 10-24: Salary and Bonus Limitation Imposed by Appropriations Language](#) for additional information.

I. Required Partnerships

HVRP grant recipients are required to develop partnerships with federal, state, or local programs such as your SDA's HUD [CoC\(s\)](#) and [American Job Center\(s\)](#) (AJC). Additionally, grant recipients must partner with public, private, and nonprofit organizations and assist participants in overcoming barriers to employment.

IV. APPLICATION CONTENT AND FORMAT

Applications submitted in response to this FOA **must** consist of four separate and distinct parts:

1. SF-424, *Application for Federal Assistance*;
2. Project Budget, composed of the SF-424A and Budget Narrative;
3. Project Narrative; and
4. Attachments to the Project Narrative (PY26 VETS-704 Form – *Abstract and Planned Goals Chart (all tabs in Attachment A)* and PY26 Chart of Past Performance (*Attachment C*)).

You must make sure that the funding amount requested is consistent across all parts and sub-parts of the application. You must submit your application in one package. Documents received separately will be tracked separately and will not be attached to your application for review.

Failure to provide the same annual funding amounts in the separate and distinct parts of your FOA application **will impact the scoring** in the Project Budget section.

A. SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance

You **must** complete the [SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance](#) (available at <https://www.grants.gov/forms/forms-repository/sf-424-family>). The SF-424 form **must** be completed and submitted in [Grants.gov](#) as part of the application package. The amount requested on the SF-424 **must** reflect the federal request for the first year of grant operation only and **must** not be below \$150,000 or exceed \$500,000. Applicants **must** not include funding for the three-year period on the SF-424, Part 18a.

For a complete understanding of this application requirement, see the [2025 Application Guide](#), Section IV.A SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance.

B. Project Budget, Composed of the SF-424A and Budget Narrative

You **must** complete the [SF-424A Budget Information Form](#) (available at <https://www.grants.gov/forms/forms-repository/sf-424-family>). The SF-424A form **must** be completed and submitted in [Grants.gov](#) as part of the application package. The totals in Sections A, B, and D **must** match. In preparing the *Budget Information Form*, you **must** provide a concise narrative explanation to support the budget request, explained in detail below.

Applicants **must** list the same requested federal grant amount for one year of funding on the SF-424, SF-424A, *Abstract (Attachment A)*, and Budget Narrative. Failure to provide the same annual funding amounts in the separate and distinct parts of your FOA application will impact scoring in the Project Budget section.

1. Budget Narrative (Up to 13 Points)

The Budget Narrative **must** outline a **one-year** budget that **must** not be below \$150,000 or exceed \$500,000 in total costs, including all direct and indirect expenses. All costs **must** be allocable to the proposed project supporting an identified population and SDA. The Budget Narrative **must** also justify the costs for each line item shown on the SF-424A form and **must** match the estimated funding amount in the SF-424 (Section 18a).

Applicants **must** use whole dollar amounts. For assistance, please refer to the sample [Budget Narrative Template \(Attachment B\)](#) and supplemental microlearning videos on the [Prospective HVRP Applicant Resources – National Veterans’ Technical Assistance Center](#) website. This recommended Excel template has sections where you can enter information for each object class category.

Applicants **must** show that their proposed costs are allowable ([2 C.F.R. § 200.403](#)). Costs **must** be necessary and reasonable for carrying out the HVRP grant. You should follow the cost principles guidelines in [2 C.F.R. Part 200, Subpart E](#). A cost is considered “necessary” if it helps achieve a program goal and is necessary and reasonable for the performance of the HVRP grant. A cost is “reasonable” if it meets the “prudent person” standard ([2 C.F.R. § 200.404](#)). Shared costs among multiple programs or projects **must** be proportionate. For example, if a Program Manager spends 20 percent of their time on HVRP, then only 20 percent of the Program Manager’s cell phone service, monthly parking expenses, or laptop purchase would be charged to HVRP, with the rest being split among the other programs that pay the Program Manager’s salary.

If you include indirect costs in Section J, make sure you do not list those same costs again in any direct cost categories. You **must** categorize costs as either indirect or direct, but not both.

Failure to provide the same amounts for one year of funding in these separate and distinct parts of your FOA application will impact scoring in the Project Budget section. The Budget Narrative **must** be consistent with and support the activities, resources, staff, and other items described in the Project Narrative. If minor inconsistencies are found between the budget amounts specified on the SF-424, SF-424A, and the Budget Narrative, **DOL/VETS will consider the *Abstract (Attachment A)* the official funding amount requested.** However, if the amount specified on the SF-424 would render the application nonresponsive, the Grant Officer will use their discretion to determine whether the intended funding request (and cost sharing, if applicable) is within the responsive range.

Applicants **must** submit, as an attachment, the information requested in Word, PDF, or Excel format. A template for applicants is available at [Budget Narrative Template \(Attachment B\)](#). The naming convention for the attachment **must** be “Attachment-B-Budget-Narrative.”

Each category should include the total cost for the first year of the PoP. Use the following guidance for preparing the Budget Narrative.

Personnel

In accordance with the 2 C.F.R. § 200.404 definition of “reasonable,” DOL/VETS clarifies a “Personnel Position” as a position generally held by **one** individual whose salary and fringe benefits are charged to the grant. List all staff personnel positions by title (both current and proposed) and include the roles and responsibilities as they pertain to the award. List each

full-time equivalent (FTE) position separately and provide the annual salary, the percentage of time devoted to the project, and the amount of each position's salary funded by the grant. Grant recipients that charge a staff personnel position among multiple HVRP grants cannot exceed 100 percent FTE collectively among potential or active grants entering PY26 to include non-HVRP grants such as VA grants. Staff cannot be shared between two HVRP grant organizations. Do not list staff positions that will be covered under Indirect Costs. Do not list staff positions that will be covered under a contract the grant would award. Please see the VETS Glossary of Terms for the definitions of "Personnel."

Fringe Benefits

Fringe benefits are for the staff personnel positions listed in the Personnel budget category and only for the percentage of time devoted to the project. Do not include fringe benefits for contracted grant staff. Provide information on the rate of all fringe benefits used and the basis for the calculation. If not using a fringe benefits rate, itemize how the fringe benefits amount is computed. Fringe benefits may be in the form of employer contributions or expenses for FICA (Social Security and Medicare tax), employee life, health, unemployment, and/or worker's compensation insurance, paid absences, and other similar reasonable and allowable benefits as required by law, an organization-employee agreement, or established written policies of the applicant/recipient organization per 2 C.F.R. § 200.431.

Travel

This section is for grant recipient staff personnel listed in the Personnel budget category and only for the percentage of time devoted to the project. Do not include travel for contracted grant staff. Travel for participants (e.g., travel stipends for program participants) should be specifically itemized and placed in the Other category. DOL/VETS will no longer support in-person state or regional DOL/VETS-sponsored conferences, so do not include travel costs for those events. The DOL/VETS National Post Award Conference is virtual, so do not include travel costs for that event either. For all other conferences and events, local travel and in-state overnight or out-of-state trips should be identified differently. Cost allocations for local travel should specify the purpose, the number of staff traveling, and the estimated total mileage the staff anticipates traveling during the program year. For local travel, it is not necessary to specify the exact locations of each trip, as it will be fluid based on participants, employers, and outreach opportunities. Mileage reimbursements **must** not exceed the federal reimbursement rate on the [GSA privately owned vehicle mileage reimbursement rate webpage](#). Out-of-state or in-state overnight travel requires specific start and end destinations so DOL/VETS can determine whether the per diem and/or lodging costs are reasonable. This travel could also include allowable expenses to cover travel to events such as professional conferences and/or any other offered training. Identify the name and location of the conference that staff will attend. Staff should not claim full-day per-diem rates for the first and last day of travel. Lodging and per-diem expenditures **must** not exceed the rates established by GSA for the location of your trip. Find your per diem and lodging rates on the [GSA per diem rate webpage](#). Grant recipients **must** justify travel expenditures that exceed 10 percent of the one-year budget.

Equipment

Per 2 C.F.R. § 200.1, "equipment" means tangible personal property (including information technology systems) having a useful life of more than one year and a per-unit acquisition cost

that equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by the recipient or subrecipient for financial statement purposes or \$10,000. Items with a unit cost of less than \$10,000 are supplies, not “equipment.” **DOL/VETS does not allow the purchase of motor vehicles, buildings, or land.** Applicants **must** list the item, quantity, and unit cost per item and describe the need for the equipment, i.e., explain how the use of each item of equipment is related to the implementation of the required/approved activities to achieve the specific project objectives. List expendable items or materials in Supplies. DOL/VETS does not permit the purchase of equipment during the last funded year of the award.

Supplies

Per 2 C.F.R. § 200.1, “supplies” means **all tangible personal property** other than those described in the equipment definition. A computing device (e.g., laptop) is a supply if the acquisition cost is below the lesser of the capitalization level established by the recipient (or subrecipient for financial statement purposes) or \$10,000, regardless of the length of its useful life. Applicants **must** list the items by type of supply (e.g., training materials, desktop computer, laptop, projector, etc.), cost per unit, quantity, or cost per month if rented or leased. Software subscription services, such as cellular phone service or internet service, and advertising costs are not tangible and **must** be listed in Other. Cost allocations for supplies that are not broken down by individual item in the narrative **must** document the methodology used in determining the amount allocated for this line item, per 2 C.F.R. § 200.405(d). Supplies for participants **must** be placed in the “Other” line item.

Contractual

Contracts and subawards **must** be described separately. The term “contract” is defined in 2 C.F.R. § 200.1 and means, for the purpose of federal financial assistance, a legal instrument by which a recipient or subrecipient conducts procurement transactions under a federal award. “Contractor” means an entity that receives a contract. “Subaward” means an award provided by a pass-through entity to a subrecipient for the subrecipient to contribute to the goals and objectives of the project by carrying out part of the federal award received by the pass-through entity. It does not include payments to a contractor or payments to an individual that is a beneficiary of a federal program. A subaward may be provided through any form of legal agreement, including an agreement that the pass-through entity considers a contract. For each contract or subaward, list the purpose, goods and/or services to be provided, amount, and percent charged to HVRP. Be sure to describe the goods and/or services to be provided by each contractor or sub-awardee and how the goods and/or services relate to the accomplishment of specific project objectives. **Phone and copier contracts, agreements, or leases must not be included in this section.** All procurement transactions for the acquisition of goods and/or services required under an award **must** be conducted in a manner providing full and open competition consistent with the federal procurement standards in 2 C.F.R. § 200.319 (Competition) and 2 C.F.R. § 200.320 (Procurement Methods). Applicants **must** follow their documented procurement procedures that reflect applicable state, local, and tribal laws and regulations. These procedures **must** also conform to applicable federal laws, regulations, and the standards identified in 2 C.F.R. § 200.318 (General Procurement Standards). Applicants **must** maintain oversight to ensure that contractors and sub-awardees perform in accordance with the terms, conditions, and specifications of their legal agreement. For additional guidance, refer to 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.318–

200.327 on Procurement Standards and 2 C.F.R. § 200.332 on Subrecipient Monitoring and Management.

Construction

Construction costs are not allowed, and this line **must** be left as zero. Minor alterations to adjust an existing space for grant activities (such as a classroom alteration that does not involve construction costs) may be allowable. DOL/VETS does not consider this as construction. Applicants **must** include the costs for minor alterations in the Contractual budget line item.

Other

Costs listed under Other are those not covered under the other SF424A line-item categories. Provide **clear and specific details**, including cost methodology, for each item so that DOL/VETS can determine whether the costs are necessary, reasonable, and allocable.

Professional liability insurance, also referred to as errors and omissions insurance, is unallowable in accordance with [2 C.F.R. § 200.447\(b\)\(5\)](#).

Listed below are common HVRP costs belonging under this category:

Participant Support Costs

Per 2 C.F.R. § 200.1, participant support costs mean direct costs that support participants and their involvement in a federal award, such as stipends, subsistence allowances, travel allowances, registration fees, temporary dependent care, and per diem paid directly to or on behalf of participants. Participant support costs are allowed only when incurred to enable the eligible veteran's participation in HVRP services and **must** be tied to a specific HVRP service. They are not meant to cover all the participants' needs. Typically, needs are identified during the intake and assessment process and included in the employment plan. A participant support payment is given to, or on behalf of, eligible participants to provide temporary assistance that supports the individual's employment plan. A Participant Support Cost **must** be reasonable and necessary to help the participant engage in services and activities related to the employment plan. Grant recipients should make every effort to leverage alternative sources (i.e., federal, state, or local programs) to fund participant support costs before using HVRP funds for this purpose. For specific guidance on Participant Support Costs, please see [VPL 06-24 HVRP Requirements and Functions](#) or the most current guidance on this topic. List participant support costs (e.g., training, clothing, work-related materials, etc.) and provide clear and specific details, including costs and quantity, for each item so that DOL/VETS can review factors affecting the allowability of costs as cited in 2 C.F.R. § 200.403. You may also list the support cost per month, if applicable. Note: identify the percentage of the cost that will be charged to the grant.

Participant Wages

HVRP grant funds **may** be used to pay participant wages. Examples of wage subsidies include On-the-Job Training (OJT), training and education costs for Registered Apprentices enrolled in Registered Apprenticeship programs, and/or transitional jobs (TJ) strategies. The participant **must** be involved in job training, and the expectation is for employers to hire them afterwards. Funds can cover job training wages for up to 90 days and can contribute up to half of the participant's wages, based on the county market wage for the SDA county as shown in the *Abstract (Attachment A)*.

To use HVRP funds for OJT, training and education costs for Registered Apprentices enrolled in Registered Apprenticeship programs, and/or TJ wages, grant recipients **must** show that participants need the subsidized job training wages and create an agreement with the employer that stipulates the terms of the subsidy, duration of the job training, and that it **must** lead to employment. The agreement **must** stipulate that HVRP funds will reimburse the employer for the agreed-upon earnings to be subsidized, not more than 50 percent. Subsidized job training will **not** be treated as a job placement. Awardees **must** have a standard operating procedure (SOP) to implement and execute this process consistently.

Housing Costs for Veterans Transitioning from Certain Institutions

Housing is a critical element for successful reintegration into the workforce. HVRP funds **may** be used for housing, 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](#). Applicants that propose, in their Budget Narrative, to use funds for housing assistance **must** identify how they will exhaust other housing options, such as those offered by penal institutions, community-based housing providers, or other housing assistance options, before expending grant funds for this purpose. Please see [VPL 06-24 HVRP Requirements and Functions](#) or the most current guidance on this topic for details pertaining to the allowability of these costs under HVRP.

Childcare Costs for Veterans with Children

HVRP funds **may** be used to provide childcare services only to participants that meet the definition of homeless veterans with children, in accordance with [38 U.S.C. § 2021A](#), to expedite the reintegration of homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children into the labor force.

The use of grant funds for childcare services is limited to 45 days, and the amount of assistance **must** be reasonable considering the average cost of childcare within the local community. Applicants that propose, in their Budget Narrative, to use funds for childcare services for these eligible participants **must** identify how you will exhaust other resources before expending grant funds for this purpose. Please reference [VPL 06-24 HVRP Requirements and Functions](#) or the most current guidance on this topic for details pertaining to the allowability of these costs under HVRP.

Other Costs

List items or expenses not covered in other budget line items and provide specific details including the costs and quantity for each item. Show the basis for the calculations and break down costs into the cost per unit or rate (e.g., cost per square foot, cost per participant, etc.). You may also estimate the cost per month, if applicable, and the percentage that will be charged to the grant.

Incentives

Incentives may be provided to **active** HVRP participants for recognition and achievement directly tied to participation in the program and employment goals. Incentives may be provided to enrolled participants and participants maintaining employment throughout the 12-month retention period. If you plan to use incentive funds, your Budget Narrative **must** include the planned amount and type of incentives (e.g., gift cards, vouchers, etc.). Planned costs for incentives **must** be categorized under the “Other” cost category and not as a Participant Support

Cost. Awardees that want to use grant funding for incentives **must** have an SOP outlining a disbursement policy and tracking system to ensure supportive services are implemented and executed consistently before incentives are dispersed. For specific guidance on incentives, including the SOP requirements, please see [VPL 06-24 HVRP Requirements and Functions](#) or the most current guidance on this topic.

Indirect Costs

If you include an amount for indirect costs (through a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement or de minimis rate) on the SF-424A budget form, then include one of the following:

- a) If you have a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA), provide an explanation of how the indirect costs are calculated. This explanation should include which portion of each line item, along with the associated costs, are included in your cost allocation base. Also, provide a current version of the NICRA that covers all or a portion of the expected PoP.
- or
- b) If you intend to claim indirect costs using the 15 percent de minimis rate of Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC), please confirm that your organization meets the requirements as described in [2 C.F.R. § 200.414\(f\)](#). Clearly state that your organization does not have a current negotiated (including provisional) rate.

Applicants choosing to claim indirect costs using the de minimis rate **must** use MTDC (see [2 C.F.R. § 200.1](#) below for definition) as their cost allocation base. Provide an explanation of which portion of each line item, along with the associated costs, are included in your cost allocation base. Note that there are various items not included in the calculation of MTDC. See the definitions below to assist you in your calculation.

- **2 C.F.R. § 200.1 MTDC:** To avoid serious inequity in the distribution of indirect costs, DOL defines MTDC as all direct salaries and wages, applicable fringe benefits, materials and supplies, services, and travel and up to the first \$50,000 of each subaward or subcontract (regardless of the PoP of the subawards and subcontracts under the award). MTDC excludes equipment, capital expenditures, charges for patient care, rental costs, tuition remission, scholarships and fellowships, participant support costs, and the portion of each subaward and subcontract in excess of \$50,000. Please note that participant support costs are not included in MTDC, so applicants **must** ensure those costs are removed from their allocation base.
- **2 C.F.R. § 200.1 Participant Support Cost** means direct costs that support participants and their involvement in a federal award, such as stipends or subsistence allowances, registration fees, temporary dependent care, and per diem paid to or on behalf of participants.

See Section IV.D for more information. Additionally, the [Cost & Price Determination Division \(CPDD\)](#) contains information regarding the negotiation of Indirect Cost Rates at DOL.

Note that the SF-424, SF-424A, and Budget Narrative must include the federal grant amount requested for the *first year only* of the PoP. Failure to provide the same annual

funding amounts in the separate and distinct parts of your FOA application will impact scoring in the Project Budget section.

Leveraged Resources

Do not show leveraged resources on the SF-424 and SF-424A. The HVRP grant program does not require cost sharing or matching funds. Applicants that are not using federal grant funds to support grant activities **must** provide a description of leveraged resources. DOL/VETS considers any resources contributed to the project, beyond the funds provided by the agency, as leveraged resources. Applicants are encouraged to leverage resources to increase stakeholder investment in the project and broaden and sustain the impact of the project itself. The Budget Narrative should provide a description of the leveraged resources provided to support grant activities, the specific activities they will cover, the way they will support HVRP goals, and the funding source. Valuation of leveraged resources follows the same requirements as cost sharing.

The Budget Narrative will be scored as follows:

- Personnel salaries benchmark – Use of the [Bureau of Labor Statistic benchmark for wage estimates](#) for [Eligibility Interviewers, Government Programs \(43-4061.00\)](#) to show that the personnel salaries for Case Managers, Employment Specialists, or equivalent positions meet or exceed the local wages of the lowest 10 percent of workers for the proposed service address(es) zip code(s). This benchmark does not apply to the Program Directors/Managers, Outreach Staff, etc., personnel positions. **(Up to 1 Point)**
- Alignment with the Project Narrative – The extent to which the Budget Narrative explanations align with and reflect realistic costs that **must** align and support the activities, resources, staff, and other items described in the Project Narrative. **(Up to 4 Points)**
- Alignment with [2 C.F.R. Part 200, Subpart E](#) and [VPL 06-24 HVRP Requirements and Functions](#) – The extent to which the Budget Narrative explanations for each SF-424A category provide the required detail outlined in the FOA. The explanation for each line-item category **must** demonstrate that costs are allowable, reasonable, and necessary for the project and **must** align with requirements in [VPL 06-24 HVRP Requirements and Functions](#) or the most current guidance on this topic. The Budget Narrative **must** not include unallowable costs such as buying construction materials, vehicles, buildings, or land. **(Up to 6 Points)**
- Utilizing Partnership Resources – In the leverage resource section, describe how the project will leverage resources by coordinating with other local, state, and national organizations, as well as supportive service and training programs, including job-driven training opportunities and Registered Apprenticeships, to help HVRP participants overcome barriers to employment. **(Up to 2 Points)**
- Consistent annual funding amount – The same annual funding amount (year one funding amount) **must** be on the SF-424, SF-424A, Budget Narrative, and all relevant tabs of the VETS-704 Form – *Abstract and Planned Goals Chart*. **Failure to provide the same annual funding amounts in these separate and distinct parts of your FOA application will result in zero points for the entire Budget Narrative section.**

- Alignment with the SF-424A – Match the Budget Narrative Object Class Category totals with each line item on the SF-424A Section B.6. For example, if your Budget Narrative Personnel section is \$50,575, then your Section B.6.a should be \$50,575. Only whole numbers are accepted on all forms. **Failure to align these funding amounts in your FOA application will result in zero points for the entire Budget Narrative section.**

C. Project Narrative

You **must** provide a Project Narrative with your application. The applicant **must** create the Project Narrative and submit this document as part of their application package in [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) in the Project Narrative section. The Project Narrative shows that the applicant can implement the grant project explained in this Announcement. The Project Narrative **must** demonstrate your capability to implement the grant project in accordance with the provisions of this Announcement. It provides a comprehensive framework and description of all aspects of the proposed project. It **must** be succinct, self-explanatory, and well-organized so that reviewers can understand the proposed project. Applicants **must** describe how they will meet the requirements listed below. Applicants **must** show that their planned activities will meet the project goals. As appropriate, applicants should see the [2025 Application Guide](#), Section IX External Resources for starting places to find research that could provide evidence of a sound approach.

The Project Narrative is limited to 25 double-spaced single-sided 8.5 x 11-inch pages with Times New Roman 12-point font and 1-inch margins. You **must** number the pages of the Project Narrative beginning with page number 1. It **must** include the section headers listed below. The agency will evaluate the Project Narrative using the evaluation criteria identified in Section VI.B. We will not read or consider any materials beyond the specified 25-page limit (except for attachments listed in Section IV.D that impact the scoring of the application).

1. Statement of Need (Up to 11 Points)

Scoring for this section will be based on entries in the *Abstract (Attachment A)*.

a. *Abstract (tab 1 in Attachment A)*

Applicants must provide their legal name as it appears in [SAM.gov](https://www.sam.gov), their EIN, and their UEI.

Applicants **must identify** whether the Grant Type is Category 1 (HVRP), Category 2 (HWVHVWC), or Category 3 (IVTP). The application will be reviewed under Category 1 (HVRP) if you do not explicitly identify a category in the *Abstract (tab 1 in Attachment A)*. No additional changes or discussions of this population category will occur during or after the competition.

Applicants **must** list the same requested federal grant amount on the SF-424, SF-424A, *Abstract (Attachment A)*, and Budget Narrative. Failure to provide the same annual funding amounts in these separate and distinct parts of your FOA application will impact scoring in the Project Budget section. While HVRP funds a maximum amount of \$500,000 per year, applicants can submit any amount under this cap, but no less than \$150,000, that is justified by and aligned with their budget and budget narrative (for example, \$250,000 for Year 1).

VETS requires HVRP awardees to maintain one or more physical locations within a 50 continuous driving mile radius of each county in their proposed SDA. The physical location is where Case Managers, Employment Specialists, or equivalent positions will provide services to

eligible HVRP participants in the SDA. HVRP participants, who require intensive support, greatly benefit from in-person interactions. Consequently, these locations allow grant staff to be present, providing direct support and services to participants. Although HVRP grant recipients may offer virtual services, this should not be the primary or frequent method of delivery. Many HVRP participants have limited access to technology, making it challenging to receive case management services solely through virtual channels. VETS recognizes that leasing multiple physical sites may not be fiscally practical for all grant recipients. Instead, grant recipients may fulfill this requirement through co-location with designated partner service providers with low- or no-cost agreements, such as arrangements with [AJCs](#) or locations funded by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) grant. Grant recipients that utilize co-location **must** provide services at that physical co-location at least once a month. VETS staff will verify compliance by confirming that grant staff are physically present and providing services at the addresses listed in the VETS-704 (*Abstract*) during on-site reviews and in the grant recipient's VETS Grantee Reporting System (VGRS) quarterly performance reports in the Narrative module, where they can explain the grant's achievements and activities. While office locations may change over time, the city is the basis for defining the 50 continuous driving mile radius SDA. The 50 continuous driving mile radius may cross state lines. For example, Washington, D.C., has a 50 continuous driving mile radius that includes the District of Columbia and parts of Maryland and Virginia. Post Office Boxes are **not** accepted.

Applicants **must** provide the proposed physical address(es) where grant staff will be located when they provide services. This information **must** be included in the *Abstract (tab 1 in Attachment A)*. For definition of physical address, please refer to the [HVRP Glossary of Terms](#). Utilize the [StatsAmerica Big Radius Tool](#), which provides a list of counties within a 50-mile radius of a city (or county population center, if city is not available), to determine which counties fall within a 50 continuous driving mile radius of your physical location. The 50-mile radius is calculated based on the number of driving miles between the physical address and the most populated city in the county in the proposed SDA. Counties that are more than 50 continuous driving miles away from the physical location address(es) listed in the Abstract and that make up 50 percent or more of the planned yearly enrollment will cause your application to be **disqualified**. This is because you would need to update your Budget and Project Narrative to include the new physical location address(s). For example:

- Applicant's prospective SDA has four (4) counties: Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, and Delta.
- Counties Alpha, Bravo, and Charlie are more than 50 miles away from the physical location address listed in the Abstract.
- Example 1: Alpha has 30 percent of enrollments. Bravo has 30 percent of enrollments. Charlie has 20 percent of enrollments. Delta has 20 percent of enrollments. The application would be **disqualified** because 80 percent of planned yearly enrollments (counties Alpha, Bravo, and Charlie) are more than 50 miles away from the physical location address listed in the Abstract.
- Example 2: Alpha has 10 percent of enrollments. Bravo has 5 percent of enrollments. Charlie has 5 percent of enrollments. Delta has 80 percent of enrollments. The application would not be disqualified, because only 20 percent of planned yearly enrollments (counties Alpha, Bravo, and Charlie) are more than 50 miles away from the physical location address listed in the Abstract.

Failure to enter the street address, city, state/territory, and zip code (five digits) will result in **disqualification**, because that information is required to validate against the [StatsAmerica Big Radius Tool](#) results.

b. Abstract (tab 2 in Attachment A)

Identify the proposed SDA, including each state or territory in which the grant will operate, relevant counties, and/or county equivalents (independent cities). If there are any differences between the SDA in the *Abstract (Attachment A)* and the Project Narrative, the application will be **disqualified**, because all activities described in the Project Narrative **must** be based on the official service locations.

SDA Saturation Level (Up to 11 Points)

Applicants are required to enter their annual enrollments for each [CoC](#) in their SDA in their *PY 2026 Abstract (tab 2 in Attachment A)*. If the proposed enrollments result in oversaturation for that [CoC](#), a red indicator will display in the CoC Saturation with Proposed Number of Annual Enrollments field. To ensure realistic enrollment goals are made, the following points will be awarded to each [CoC](#) in the proposed SDA:

- 0 points for saturation greater than or equal to 120.0% shown in dark red
- 1 point for saturation between 80.1% and 119.9% shown in reddish orange
- 4 points for saturation between 50.1% and 80.0% shown in light orange
- 6 points for saturation between 25.1% and 50.0% shown in light blue
- 11 points for saturation less than or equal to 25.0% shown in dark blue

Saturation level points apply to HVRP and HWVHVWC application grant types only. IVTP grant applications are exempt from SDA saturation level scoring, as 100 percent of an IVTP grant's enrollments are residents of penal institutions and/or long-term care institutions for mental illness at the time of program entry. As a result, IVTP applicants will receive 11 points for this section, as this service population is not included in the HUD PIT Count.

If more than one [CoC](#) is included in your SDA, the points will be weighted by the percentage of planned enrollments assigned to each [CoC](#) and rounded to the nearest whole number. **Failure to enter the state/territory, county/county equivalent, and/or the number of annual enrollments for each of the [CoCs](#) identified in the *Abstract (tab 2 in Attachment A)* will result in zero points for the SDA Saturation Level score and zero points for the Expected Outcomes and Outputs, since the outcomes and outputs points are based on the annual enrollments entered in the *Abstract (tab 2 in Attachment A)*.**

2. Expected Outcomes and Outputs (Up to 20 Points)

The requirements in the *Planned Goals Chart (tab 4 in Attachment A)* align with [Executive Order 14332, Improving Oversight of Federal Grantmaking](#), which states that grant awards should include clear benchmarks for measuring success and progress towards relevant goals. **Failure to enter values in every yellow cell in the *Planned Goals Chart (tab 4 in Attachment A)* will result in zero points for the Expected Outcomes and Outputs section of the FOA, since each yellow cell entry impacts another section of the chart.**

Cost per Enrollment (Up to 9 Points)

Applicants are required to enter the Cost per Enrollment goal within the *Planned Goals Chart (tab 4 in Attachment A)*. If the Cost per Enrollment is greater than \$4,000 or less than \$1,000, zero points are awarded. If it is equal to or less than \$4,000, nine points are awarded. Cost per Enrollment will be calculated by dividing the total funding proposed for the entire PoP by the total number of participant enrollments planned for the PoP. This calculation assists in ensuring reasonable funding requests relative to the total planned participant enrollments referenced in the *Abstract (tab 2 in Attachment A)*. For example, to receive 9 points, you **must** have at least 125 participant enrollments to justify a \$500,000 grant request. If the saturation of your SDA cannot support 125 enrollments, you should request less annual funding. Applicants **must** enter the requested amount for each individual year of the grant in the *Abstract (tab 1 in Attachment A)* and the number of annual enrollments by [CoC](#) in the *Abstract (tab 2 in Attachment A)* for this indicator to score in the *Planned Goals Chart (tab 4 in Attachment A)*.

Other Performance Indicators

Applicants **must** ensure performance goals are realistic, programmatically aligned, and supported by sound methods and strategies for accomplishing goals in accordance with [VPL 02-25 HVRP Performance Management and Reporting](#) or the most current guidance on this topic. Awardees are expected to commence programmatic activity starting July 1 of the PY (or the date prescribed in the Notice of Award).

It is highly recommended that applicants consider potential delays in start-up time (e.g., set-up of facilities, hiring of appropriate staff, outreach to networks to establish participant referrals, etc.), which may affect performance in early quarters. **When setting goals, applicants are encouraged not to distribute enrollments and exiters equally across quarters in their first year of performance. Consider setting lower enrollment goals for Program Year 1, Quarter 1, as this will be the start-up phase of your grant. Zero enrollments are acceptable during this period, and you will not be penalized.** Awardees will be held to the performance goals submitted in their application and **must** report quarterly on the progress toward their cumulative goals throughout the three-year PoP. For more information on planned goal changes, please see [VPL 04-24 HVRP Award Amendments Attachment A – Technical Assistance Guide](#) or the most current guidance on this topic.

DOL/VETS may impose specific conditions, in accordance with [2 C.F.R. § 200.208](#), for failure to meet performance goals. Failure to achieve performance goals may also have a significant impact on future federal awards and/or the ability to receive future federal awards.

Please refer to the [HVRP Glossary of Terms](#) for definitions of the performance indicators and the [HVRP Quarterly Performance Reporting Desk Guide](#) for scoring thresholds.

Applicants are required to complete all yellow highlighted fields in the *Planned Goals Chart (tab 4 in Attachment A)*, as these fields are used to establish the goals for all performance indicators. **Failure to provide values for all yellow highlighted fields will result in zero points for Expected Outcomes and Outputs**, since each entry impacts the calculation of goals throughout the chart.

The performance indicators below in the *Planned Goals Chart (tab 4 in Attachment A)* will be scored **(Up to 11 Points)**:

- Placement Rate (Rate = Employed/Exited) (**Up to 2 points**)
- Cost per Placement (**Up to 6 points**)
- Employment Rate 2nd Quarter After Exit (percentage of program exiters who are in unsubsidized employment in the second quarter after exit from the program) (**Up to 1 point**)
- Employment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit (percentage of program exiters who are in unsubsidized employment in the fourth quarter after exit from the program) (**Up to 1 point**)
- Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit (the median quarterly earnings of program exiters who are in unsubsidized employment in the second quarter after exit from the program) (**Up to 1 point**)

The performance indicators listed below are not scored in Expected Outcomes and Outputs:

- Number of participants enrolled (scored under SDA Saturation Level in the Statement of Need section)
- Number of participants exited
- Average Hourly Wage at Placement
- Percentage of Enrollments with Completed Training

3. Project Design (Up to 23 Points)

Applicants **must** describe their overall strategy for providing employment and job training services. Services **must** be delivered through a client-centered case management approach that imparts relevant skills and connects participants with high-quality career opportunities. The grant recipients that have historically had the most success in assisting veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness are those that have taken an expansive multi-disciplinary and comprehensive approach to the problem.

Throughout this section, you **must** demonstrate a cohesive, well-designed approach to implementing the project. Simply attesting that the applicant will complete an element will result in zero points for that element. You **must** describe how you will incorporate the following project design elements that will address the unique needs of the targeted population and proposed SDA:

(i) Outreach, Recruitment, and Engagement (Up to 4 Points)

Applicants **must** have a comprehensive plan for outreach, recruitment, and engagement of veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

To receive full points for this section, applicants **must** address the following components of their outreach, recruitment, and engagement strategies:

- Describe how you will conduct outreach to the following:
 - Veterans who are sheltered and unsheltered within your proposed SDA, including veterans living in encampments or tent cities;
 - Other eligible veterans;

- Where applicable, veterans in institutional settings, such as jails, residential treatment facilities, and hospitals; and
- Communities not currently being served by an HVRP grant. HVRP strives to provide services to veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness in as many communities as possible throughout the nation. According to the [HUD AHAR Report](#), every state has a population of veterans experiencing homelessness. To serve these populations, it is imperative resources are provided in those communities.
- Describe the role [AJCs](#), shelters, penal institutions, long-term care facilities, and any other partners will assume in the recruitment of eligible participants.
- Describe how you would participate in local Stand Down (SD) events that may be planned in your proposed SDA and how you would collaborate with [HUD CoC Coordinated Entry](#). Please refer to the [HVRP Glossary of Terms](#) for the definition of SD.

(ii) Intake and Assessment (Up to 4 Points)

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 employment services. To provide HVRP services, grant recipients **must** collect, in an individual's participant case file, source documentation of eligibility. For further information, please see [VPL 06-24 HVRP Requirements and Functions](#) or the most current guidance on this topic. To receive full points for this section, applicants **must** explain the following components of their intake and assessment process:

- Describe how you will determine if a participant is eligible for enrollment.
- Describe how you will allow for in-person, virtual, or hybrid models of service and how the intake process will remove barriers to ensure the eligible veteran's full participation in the project.
- Describe the methods used to collect information from the eligible veteran to assess the types of employment-related services needed to assist them in gaining and retaining meaningful employment
- Describe how you will ensure the participant's readiness to enter employment following the receipt of services and training.

(iii) Employment and Job Training (Up to 7 Points)

Job-driven training received by participants may be provided directly through the grant or provided to participants through partnerships with an [AJC](#), [GI Bill Benefits](#), [Veteran Readiness and Employment](#) (formerly known as Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment), State Vocational Rehabilitation programs, or other training providers. Job-driven training is targeted to the specific industries, occupations, and skills that are in demand locally and **must** enable a participant to become employable or seek a higher grade of employment. Training **must** align with participants' employment goals. Some examples of job-driven training that may be provided to participants are OJT; Registered Apprenticeships; customized job training, upgrading, or retraining; entrepreneurial or other work-based learning; and occupational skills training provided by the applicant or a third-party training provider. Life skills, financial

management, resumé writing, interview preparation, and other job readiness or preparation services **are not considered** job-driven training. For definitions of various types of job training, please refer to the [HVRP Glossary of Terms](#). Employment and training programs **must** target in-demand occupations per Labor Market Information (LMI) for their SDA.

In August 2025, the U.S. Departments of Labor, Commerce, and Education published a report, [America's Talent Strategy: Equipping American Workers for the Golden Age](#), which describes the President's strategy to transform the workforce system into a reliable pipeline of American talent led by industry and aligned with America's economic priorities. The President's strategy includes expanding Registered Apprenticeship Opportunities, consistent with [Executive Order 14278, Preparing Americans for High-Paying Skilled Trade Jobs of the Future](#), to align America's reindustrialization needs and equip American workers to fill the growing demand for skilled trades and other occupations. To that end, DOL is simplifying registration for new apprenticeship programs. Visit the [Apprenticeship Job Finder](#) webpage, where you can search Registered Apprenticeship job opportunities nationwide.

Job Training

To receive full points for this section, applicants **must** describe the following components of their employment and job-driven training services:

- Describe the employment and job-driven training services available to participants to help them obtain and retain high-quality career outcomes in high-demand industries, such as construction, electrical, manufacturing, and cybersecurity, and how you gathered input from industry experts to determine what relevant skills are in high demand. **(Up to 1 point)**
- Explain your strategies for providing both general and specialized training, including OJT while participants are in HVRP, and how the training aligns with skills demanded by employers in growth sectors, resulting in placements. **(Up to 1 point)**

Registered Apprenticeships

DOL/VETS is committed to expanding [Registered Apprenticeships](#) in the HVRP program. DOL requires applicants for competitively awarded funds to set targets for the number of participants placed into Registered Apprenticeships, and those that receive funding will be held accountable for delivering on these commitments. Note that placement into a Registered Apprenticeship is considered placement into employment. To receive full points for this section, applicants **must** describe the following components of Registered Apprenticeships:

- Describe how you will set targets for the number of participants placed into Registered Apprenticeship programs and then engage, recruit, and enroll participants in those Registered Apprenticeship programs. **(Up to 1 point)**

Employment

Grant recipients **must** have sound strategies for placing participants into unsubsidized employment in jobs that pay wages consistent with the relevant market. Grant recipients **must** work toward assisting participants to secure or attain employment in accordance with their employment goals during the PoP, either through direct involvement by the grant recipient, through a robust referral system, or through the participant's own efforts.

To receive full points for this section, applicants **must** also address each of the following:

- Describe the range of employment and job training opportunities available to participants in your SDA and how you will develop formal employment and job training plans based on each participant's job training needs assessment. These plans should be tailored to support the participant's employment goals and may incorporate additional approaches to promote self-sufficiency. Applicants **must** describe how you will manage and document participants' progress, including referrals to other relevant services or programs. **(Up to 2 points)**
- Describe your approach to providing employment adjustment services once the participant secures employment. Recognizing the challenges many participants face during their transition to stable employment and housing, these services should facilitate job retention. Applicants **must** integrate employment adjustment services into the participant's employment plan, including clear expectations, identification of potential stressors, development of actionable strategies to address them, and mechanisms for tracking progress and acknowledging successes. **(Up to 2 points)**

(iv) Linkages and Supportive Services (Up to 4 Points)

Stable housing, health care (including mental health), transportation, childcare, and other supportive services are critical in helping veterans experiencing homelessness reintegrate into the labor force. DOL/VETS promotes collaboration with other organizations to leverage federal, state, and local resources to the maximum extent possible in support of reintegrating veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness. The plan **must** include partnerships with public, private, and nonprofit organizations and assist participants in overcoming barriers to employment.

As part of the plan for supportive services, applicants **must** propose a specific housing assistance strategy. The housing strategy **must** clearly indicate how participants will be housed or rapidly connected to housing. Applicants **must** highlight the provisions that will be made for program participants to access emergency, temporary, transitional, and/or permanent housing through various community resources. Examples of resources include, but are not limited to, the following:

- The [SSVF/HUD](#), which rapidly rehouses homeless veterans and their families
- The [VA Domiciliary/Grant and Per Diem \(GPD\) Program](#), which funds emergency and transitional housing programs
- The [Federal Emergency Management Agency's food and shelter programs](#), which provide emergency food and shelter
- The [HUD-VASH program](#), which provides permanent housing for eligible homeless veterans
- The [HUD CoC program](#), which coordinates housing for any homeless individual and assists in locating other affordable housing alternatives and permanent supportive housing options
- Local and state housing authorities

The [AJC](#) is designed to provide a full range of assistance to job seekers under one roof. Because HVRP is employment-focused, collaboration with the [AJC](#) is key. An [AJC](#) can provide supplementary services to eligible veterans. Since additional resources and information can be provided at an [AJC](#), coordination between them and the grant recipient is vital to provide the maximum number of resources to participants. Additionally, grant recipients are strongly encouraged to enroll their participants at the [AJC](#).

Persistent, coordinated, and creative outreach efforts are important to not only identify but also engage veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness and connect them to the services they need to obtain and retain employment. To ensure the proposed project is cultivating successful linkages to supportive service providers, applicants should employ and partner with veterans with lived experience and those with recent experience with homelessness and homeless service systems.

Awardees will be required to have an SOP in place to ensure supportive services are implemented and executed consistently.

To receive full points for this section, applicants **must** address each of the following (**Up to 2 points**):

- Describe your plan to leverage existing relationships and/or develop new relationships with existing [CoCs](#) and/or employer partners. Provide at least one example of how your organization has done so in the past.
- Demonstrate that the proposed project has an appropriate mix of partnerships with local area agencies and [AJCs](#), in addition to [CoC](#)/employer partners, to effectively support the proposed grant. At minimum, you **must** explain how you will leverage partnerships with area agencies and [AJCs](#) to maximize training, supportive services, and employment opportunities for participants. Other key partners should provide support with stable housing, health care (including mental health care), transportation, childcare, and other supportive services that are critical in helping veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness reintegrate into the labor force.

[AJC](#) Letter of Support (up to 1 point)

The coordination between [AJCs](#) and the grant recipient is essential to maximize the resources available to participants. To provide evidence of partnership with the [AJC](#) listed in *Abstract (tab 3 in Attachment A)*, please contact each [AJC](#) in your SDA(s) as soon as possible to obtain a requested Letter of Support from each [AJC](#). The [AJC](#) Letter of Support should be dated within 12 months from the FOA publication date. You should provide a letter from each [AJC](#) located within the [CoC\(s\)](#) in your SDA to validate your ability to partner with this agency.

COC Letter of Support (Up to 1 point)

Provide evidence of key partnerships with a requested HUD [CoC](#) Letter of Support that describes the relationship and the roles and responsibilities of each party. If your SDA encompasses multiple [CoCs](#), you should provide a letter from each [CoC](#) in the SDA. Your SDA's [CoCs](#) are identified in the *Abstract (tab 2 in Attachment A) – Unduplicated CoC Number & Name*.

A congressional letter of support is not required or requested.

(v) Employer Engagement Strategies (Up to 4 Points)

The August 2025 report, [America's Talent Strategy: Equipping American Workers for the Golden Age](#), states that "Federal programs must be designed so that employers play a leading role in shaping and delivering training programs that help new and incumbent workers build the skills they need to succeed." HVRP grant recipients must be a reliable pipeline of American talent to employers that align with America's economic priorities and prioritize industry needs and evolving skill demands. To receive full points for this section, applicants **must** address each of the following:

- Describe your approach for proactively targeting both public and private employers and the outreach strategy, as well as any distinct approaches used to target specific industry employers (e.g., transportation and energy) and/or trades, including through Registered Apprenticeship programs. Applicants should focus on employers in prevalent or growing industry sectors in your proposed SDA and in-demand jobs identified by the local LMI.
- Describe how you will engage employers in work experience and career exploration activities with participants. As a part of its outreach strategy, the applicant **must** describe its approach to working with the LWDB to leverage employer partnerships through board members.
- Describe how you will increase employment opportunities for participants.
- Describe the approach for ongoing communication with, and feedback from, employers to ensure the program's engagement strategy meets their needs.

4. Organizational, Administrative, and Fiscal Capacity (Up to 3 Points)

To receive full points for this section, applicants **must** describe how their organization will manage the operational, administrative, programmatic, and financial reporting requirements specified within this FOA.

(i) Staffing Strategy (Up to 1 point)

Applicants **must** address their capacity for implementing the program, programmatic reporting, and participant tracking, including follow-up tracking services to capture and report post-exit outcomes within 120 days.

- Describe the qualifications and experience that you will require for each staff position funded by this award.
- The staffing strategy **must** include:
 - the roles and responsibilities for each position listed in the Budget Narrative for all three program phases (program phases: start-up, active program services, and follow-up),
 - each staff member's relevant background, and
 - their experience with HVRP or a similar employment program.
- How you will attract and retain qualified/competent staff and address staff turnover if the need arises.

- If applicable, where the staff are shared among multiple programs of an organization, applicants **must** indicate how the organization will track staff time, apportion expenses, and ensure sufficient resources for the effort. This would apply in situations where an organization's Program Director, for example, is only charging 10 percent of his time to the grant because they are over multiple programs in the organization. The Budget Narrative's Personnel section would be referenced for this section.

(ii) Financial Capacity and Stability (Up to 1 Point)

Your application **must** demonstrate that your organization has fiscal and administrative controls in place to manage and safeguard federal funds, along with the capacity to implement an HVRP program, including the ability to adjust to potential changes in funding. Address the specifications below:

- Describe the organization's financial capacity to administer HVRP by providing evidence of sound accounting systems, fiscal controls, previous grant funds management, and a review of audited financial statements. Applicants **must** provide detailed descriptions of the following capabilities:
 - The capacity to start up financial activities early in the project and sustain some or all project activities after federal financial assistance has ended.
 - The fiscal controls are in place for auditing and accountability procedures, including fiscal management information systems.
 - An accounting system able to:
 - handle multiple funding streams.
 - track planned expenditures, which can compare in real-time actual or accrued expenditures to planned or estimated expenditures.
 - track forecasted and actual enrollments in conjunction with forecasted and actual participant wages and fringe benefits.
- Describe strategies for how you will prevent waste, abuse, and fraud or criminal activity within your organization and how you will prevent any administrative deficiencies (such as deficiencies with monitoring activity results and submitting timely reports to DOL/VETS).

(iii) Program Implementation (Up to 1 Point)

To receive full points for this section, applicants **must** address each of the following:

- Describe all associated costs for obtaining and retaining participant information that is pertinent to report post-exit outcomes, including any costs of using a third party to substantiate a participant's employment results and document tasks such as efforts to offer participant training and supportive services. For example, if the organization will use an established case management system, need to create/purchase a case management system, or use paper records.
- Describe the integrated approach to post-program placement planning and the follow-up period. These descriptions **must** include how the applicant plans to minimize the number of participants who cannot be located or contacted during the follow-up period, since the

grant recipient will be responsible for follow-up tracking and reporting outcomes, which includes tracking and reporting outcomes for each exited participant up to 12 months after they exit or until the end of the PoP (June 30, 2029).

5. Past Performance – Programmatic Capability (up to 30 Points)

Past performance is an important indicator of how successful an applicant will be when providing HVRP services. DOL/VETS considers past performance in the administration of a grant or cooperative agreement.

Applicants **must** fully complete the PY26 Chart of Past Performance (*Attachment C*), which is available for download in [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) under the Related Documents tab. Previous versions from other years will not be accepted for scoring.

Those applicants that have **never been awarded a grant or cooperative agreement from any entity** will receive zero points for this section.

Previous HVRP grant recipients **must** provide their EIN and UEI.

Non-HVRP applicants will only receive points for this section if they previously had a federally or non-federally funded grant or cooperative agreement but **not** a contract. Any non-HVRP applicant **must** validate the grant or cooperative agreement by providing their EIN and UEI. The non-HVRP applicant must also upload their grant or cooperative agreement's Notice of Award (NOA) (or similar documentation showing proof of the award or cooperative agreement) so DOL/VETS can contact that grant or cooperative agreement's grantor to validate the information entered in their PY26 Chart of Past Performance (*Attachment C*). **If the non-HVRP applicant does not provide their NOA (or similar documentation), they will receive zero points for the Past Performance section.**

For HVRP and non-HVRP grant or cooperative agreement applicants, their previous award's PoP end date **must** be within three years of the PY26 FOA posted date, and the grant or cooperative agreement **must** have been in operation for at least 12 consecutive months before the PY26 FOA posted date.

Organizations will receive points based on past performance data. There are different instructions depending on your past grant experience. Microlearning videos on how to complete this requirement are available on [Prospective HVRP Applicant Resources – National Veterans' Technical Assistance Center](#). Applicants **must** use the instructions within the PY26 Chart of Past Performance (*Attachment C*) to determine applicable scoring for past performance.

D. Attachments to the Project Narrative

In addition to the Project Narrative, the application also includes required and requested attachments as explained below (see Section VI.A on which required attachments must be submitted in order for the application to be reviewed). These attachments must be clearly labeled and do not count toward the Project Narrative page limit. Any other attachments included beyond those listed below will not be reviewed in the scoring of the application.

We encourage applicants to name the files using the document names listed below. Do not include special characters (e.g., &, –, *, %, /, #). However, underscores (for example: My_Attached_File.pdf) to separate a file name are acceptable.

1. Required Attachments

a. Attachment A – PY26 VETS-704 Form, Abstract & Planned Goals Chart

Applicants **must** complete Attachment A – PY26 VETS-704 Form – *Abstract (tabs 1, 2, and 3 and Planned Goals Chart (tab 4))*, which is available for download on [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) under the Related Documents tab. Previous versions from other years will not be accepted. The applicant **must** submit Attachment A as an Excel document on [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) under “Attachments.” The naming convention for the attachment **must** be “Attachment A VETS-704.xlsx.” Omission of the PY26 VETS-704 (*Attachment A*) will result in disqualification of your application. See Section VI.A for a list of required items that will result in the disqualification of your application if not submitted.

The requirements for the *Abstract* and *Planned Goals Chart* are below.

PY26 Abstract (tabs 1 – 3 in Attachment A)

The lack of required information in the *Abstract (Attachment A)* may impact scoring. If your organization is selected for an award, the information included in the *Abstract (Attachment A)* may be published on [USA Spending](https://www.usaspending.gov), a public-facing website that acts as the official open data source for federal spending information. **DOL/VETS will use the *Abstract (Attachment A)* as the official SDA of record.** A microlearning video on how to complete this requirement is available on [Prospective HVRP Applicant Resources – National Veterans’ Technical Assistance Center](#). The *Abstract (Attachment A)* **must** include the following:

Abstract (tab 1 in Attachment A)

- Applicant’s legal name as it appears in [SAM.gov](https://www.sam.gov)
- Applicant’s EIN
- Applicant’s UEI
- Requested amount for each individual year of the grant (i.e., Year 1, Year 2, and Year 3). While HVRP funds a maximum amount of \$500,000 per year, applicants can submit any amount under this cap, but no less than \$150,000, that is justified by and aligned with their Project Budget (for example, \$250,000 for Year 1).
- Applicants **must identify** whether an application is in Category 1 (HVRP), Category 2 (HWVHVWC), or Category 3 (IVTP). Panelists will review the application under Category 1 (HVRP) if you do not explicitly identify a category in the *Abstract (Attachment A)*. No additional changes or discussions of this grant category will occur during or after the competition.
- Applicants **must identify** the proposed physical address(es) (Street Address, City, State, and [ZIP Code](#)) of all locations where Case Managers/Employment Specialists or equivalent will provide services to participants in the SDA. Post Office Boxes are **not** accepted.

Abstract (tab 2 in Attachment A)

- Applicants **must identify** the SDA for the proposed project. Identification includes each state or territory in which the grant will operate, as well as the county/county equivalent and the number of annual enrollments expected in each of the SDA’s [CoCs](#).

Abstract (tab 3 in Attachment A)

- Purpose of the project
- Activities to be funded by the grant
- Intended beneficiaries of the project
- Expected outcomes of the project
- Subrecipient activities, if applicable
- Name(s) of local [AJC\(s\)](#) in the SDA
- Justification for planned enrollments in oversaturated [CoCs](#), if applicable
- Justification for more than one application to serve the exact same SDA, if applicable
- Justification for the application's SDA overlap (<25 percent) with a current HVRP grant's SDA, if applicable
- Key partnerships with other federal, state, or local programs
- Recipient of other funding, if applicable
- Tribal areas served, if applicable
- Rural areas served, if applicable
- [Federal Bureau of Prisons](#), penal institutions, and/or long-term care facilities served, if applicable

PY26 Planned Goals Chart (tab 4 in Attachment A)

Applicants **must fully complete** the information requested in the *PY26 Planned Goals Chart (tab 4 in Attachment A)*. Failure to input data into all yellow cell fields will result in a total score of zero for the Expected Outputs and Outcomes section. A microlearning video on how to complete this requirement is available on [Prospective HVRP Applicant Resources – National Veterans' Technical Assistance Center](#).

b. Validation of 50 continuous driving mile radius for each physical location

Applicants **must** take the following steps to validate that your Service Delivery Area is within a 50 continuous driving mile radius of the city/cities in the PY26 VETS-704 Form – *Abstract (tab 1 in Attachment A)*. Applicants **must** provide a PDF printout of the StatsAmerica Big Radius Tool to validate their physical location(s). The applicant **must** submit this attachment in [Grants.gov](#) under “Other Attachments.” Omission of this printout will result in disqualification of your application. A microlearning video on how to complete this request is available on [Prospective HVRP Applicant Resources – National Veterans' Technical Assistance Center](#).

1. Go to the [Big Radius Tool: StatsAmerica](#) website administered by the U.S. Economic Development Administration, a bureau of the U.S. Department of Commerce.
2. Adjust the website's radius size from 25 miles by sliding the grey square until it shows 50.
3. Enter the city where you will have a physical location, for example, Washington, DC. You will note that “Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metro Area,”

“Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metro Division; Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metro Area,” and “Washington city, District of Columbia” auto-populate. Please use the “city” option (Washington city, District of Columbia) from the dropdown options if you get a similar choice of options.

4. All counties within 50 miles of your physical location will be shaded in red. If you want to serve a county that is not shaded red, you will need to provide an additional physical location on the *Abstract* where your grant will provide participant support and services.
5. If the “50-Mile Radius Report” has “...plus X more counties.” Please click on the “Download County-level Detail Data” link. It will download a StatsAmerica Excel file that you **must** also upload with your application.

6. Print this page to Adobe PDF and submit the file as “50-Mile-State/Territory-Abbreviation-ZIP-Code” in your application (example: 50-Mile-DC-20003.pdf). If you have more than one physical address listed in the PY26 VETS-704 Form – *Abstract (tab 1 in Attachment A)*, you **must** submit a 50-mile radius page for each service address ZIP Code (or nearest equivalent). The applicant **must** submit this attachment in [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) under “Other Attachments.”
7. If a StatsAmerica Excel download was necessary to capture all counties within a 50-mile radius of your SDA, Submit the file as “50-Mile-State/Territory-Abbreviation-ZIP-Code” in your application (example: 50-Mile-DC-20003.xls). If you have more than one physical address listed in the PY26 VETS-704 Form – *Abstract (tab 1 in Attachment A)*, you **must** submit a 50-mile radius page for each service address ZIP Code (or nearest equivalent).

c. PY26 Past Performance Documentation

Applicants **must** fully complete and submit the PY26 Chart of Past Performance (*Attachment C*), even if you do not have past performance in administering a grant or cooperative agreement. The

form is available for download in [Grants.gov](#) under the Related Documents tab. Previous versions of the Chart of Past Performance from other years will not be accepted.

The applicant **must** submit the completed PY26 Chart of Past Performance as an attachment in [Grants.gov](#) under “Attachments.” The naming convention for the attachment **must** be “Attachment C_Past-Performance.pdf.” Omission of the PY26 Chart of Past Performance (*Attachment C*) will result in disqualification of your application. Microlearning videos on how to complete this requirement are available on [Prospective HVRP Applicant Resources – National Veterans’ Technical Assistance Center](#).

2. Requested Attachments

DOL/VETS requests the following attachments. If you do not submit the attachments, your application will still be reviewed, but it will impact your score, unless otherwise noted.

a. [HUD CoC](#) Letter(s) of Support

Applicants should provide a letter of support from a [HUD CoC](#) located within your SDA. To connect with contacts within a specific [CoC](#), please click [CoC HUD Regional Teams – HUD Exchange](#). This provides information about the Collaborative Applicant, Homeless Management Information System Lead, and Point of Contact for people experiencing homelessness for every [CoC](#) across the country. If your SDA encompasses multiple [CoCs](#) (refer to *Abstract (tab 2 in Attachment A) – Unduplicated CoC Number and Name* for the full list of [CoCs](#) in your SDA), you should provide a separate [CoC](#) letter for each [CoC](#). The Letter(s) of Support **must** be on organizational letterhead and dated within the last 12 months from the date the FOA is published with the printed name and either a wet or digital signature of the [CoC](#)’s authorized official. Typed signatures will not be accepted. The Letter(s) of Support should include the following information:

- Number and title of this FOA;
- Name and address of legal applicant organization;
- Clear demonstration of the [CoC](#)’s level of collaboration, contribution, and/or commitment to the project; and
- Summary of any actual or planned agreements.

A microlearning video on how to complete this request is available on [Prospective HVRP Applicant Resources – National Veterans’ Technical Assistance Center](#). The applicant **must** submit the letter(s) as separate attachments in [Grants.gov](#) under “Other Attachments.” The naming convention for each attachment **must** be “HUD-CoC-Letter-of-Support.pdf.” If multiple [CoC](#) letters are submitted, add a dash and the [CoC](#) number for each one, such as -CA-506, -CA-508, etc., after “Support.”

b. [Case Managers/Employment Specialists Wage Benchmark](#)

Applicants **must** complete the following steps to establish the 10th percentile wage benchmark for the proposed grant’s Case Managers/Employment Specialists (see screenshot below). A microlearning video on how to complete this request is available on [Prospective HVRP Applicant Resources – National Veterans’ Technical Assistance Center](#).

1. Go to the [O*NET OnLine](#) national wage website for [Government Program Eligibility Interviewers \(43-4061.00\)](#).
2. In the *Wages near ZIP Code* field, enter the [ZIP Code](#) of the physical address where the Case Managers/Employment Specialists or equivalent job title will provide services to grant participants. The [ZIP Code](#) entered should match the [ZIP Code](#) shown in the *Abstract (tab 1 in Attachment A)*.

Note: If the site returns an error message stating *The ZIP Code entered could not be located. To view local wages, please search again using your state or a nearby ZIP Code*, enter the next closest neighboring [ZIP Code](#) that returns a result. This site displays a map of nearby [ZIP Codes](#): [United States Zip Codes.org](#).

3. The annual salary for an HVRP Case Manager/Employment Specialist or equivalent at 1.0 full-time equivalent (FTE) **must** be no less than the middle number listed under the metropolitan area or county name, shown as “10% of workers earn \$X or less.”



4. Print this page to Adobe PDF and submit the file as “Wage-Benchmark-State/Territory-Abbreviation-ZIP-Code” in your application (example: Wage-Benchmark-CA-90001.pdf). If you have more than one physical address listed in the *Abstract (tab 1 in Attachment A)*, you **must** submit a wage benchmark page for each service address [ZIP Code](#) (or nearest equivalent).

c. [AJC](#) Letter(s) of Support

All applicants should provide a letter of support from an [AJC](#) located within the [CoC\(s\)](#) in your SDA. If your SDA encompasses multiple [AJCs](#), you should provide a separate [AJC](#) letter for each [AJC](#). The Letter(s) of Support **must** be on organizational letterhead and dated within the

last 12 months from the date the FOA is published with the printed name and either a wet or digital signature of the [AJC](#)'s authorized official. Typed signatures will not be accepted. The Letter(s) of Support should include the following information:

- Number and title of this FOA;
- Name and address of legal applicant organization;
- Clear demonstration of the [AJC](#)'s level of collaboration, contribution, and/or commitment to the project; and
- Summary of any actual or planned agreements.

A microlearning video on how to complete this request is available on [Prospective HVRP Applicant Resources – National Veterans' Technical Assistance Center](#). The applicant **must** submit the letter(s) as separate attachments in [Grants.gov](#) under "Other Attachments." The naming convention for each attachment **must** be "AJC-Letter-of-Support.pdf." If multiple letters, add a dash and the number such as -1, -2, etc. after "Support."

d. Indirect Cost Rate Agreement

If you are requesting indirect costs based on a NICRA approved by your federal Cognizant Agency, then attach the most recently approved Agreement as a PDF in [Grants.gov](#) under "Other Attachments" if it covers all or a portion of the expected PoP. (For more information, see Section IV.B.) This attachment does not impact scoring of the application. The naming convention for the attachment **must** be "NICRA.pdf."

e. FOA Financial System Risk Assessment Information

All applicants are requested to submit Funding Opportunity Announcement Financial Risk Assessment information (see Attachment D for suggested template). See Section VI.D for additional instructions. This attachment does not impact the scoring of the application. The assessment may be submitted as either a Word document or PDF in [Grants.gov](#) under "Other Attachments." The naming convention for the attachment **must** be "Attachment-D-Financial-System-Risk-Assessment."

f. Supplemental Chart of Past Performance Information for Non-HVRP Grant Applicants

The non-HVRP grant or cooperative agreement applicant must upload the grant or cooperative agreement's NOA (or similar document) to validate the information entered in their PY26 Chart of Past Performance (*Attachment C*). It should include the EIN, UEI, award number, PoP start and end date, total amount of funds obligated, and the awarding entity's contact information. A sample NOA with those fields is provided:

Notice of Award

Award# [REDACTED]

FAIN# [REDACTED]

Federal Award Date: [REDACTED]

Recipient Information	Federal Award Information																								
<p>1. Recipient Name [REDACTED]</p> <p>2. Congressional District of Recipient [REDACTED]</p> <p>3. Payment System Identifier (ID) [REDACTED]</p> <p>4. Employer Identification Number (EIN) [REDACTED]</p> <p>5. Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) [REDACTED]</p> <p>6. Recipient's Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) [REDACTED]</p> <p>7. Project Director or Principal Investigator [REDACTED]</p> <p>8. Authorized Official [REDACTED]</p>	<p>11. Award Number [REDACTED]</p> <p>12. Unique Federal Award Identification Number (FAIN) [REDACTED]</p> <p>13. Statutory Authority [REDACTED]</p> <p>14. Federal Award Project Title [REDACTED]</p> <p>15. Assistance Listing Number 17.805</p> <p>16. Assistance Listing Program Title [REDACTED]</p> <p>17. Award Action Type New</p> <p>18. Is the Award R&D? No</p>																								
<p>Federal Agency Information</p> <p>9. Awarding Agency Contact Information [REDACTED]</p> <p>10. Program Official Contact Information [REDACTED]</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #e6f2ff;"> <th colspan="2">Summary Federal Award Financial Information</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>19. Budget Period Start Date [REDACTED] - End Date [REDACTED]</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>20. Total Amount of Federal Funds Obligated by this Action</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$500,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20a. Direct Cost Amount</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$454,640.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20b. Indirect Cost Amount</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$45,360.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21. Authorized Carryover</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22. Offset</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23. Total Amount of Federal Funds Obligated this budget period</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24. Total Approved Cost Sharing or Matching, where applicable</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25. Total Federal and Non-Federal Approved this Budget Period</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$500,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>26. Period of Performance Start Date [REDACTED] - End Date [REDACTED]</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>27. Total Amount of the Federal Award including Approved Cost Sharing or Matching this Period of Performance</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$500,000.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>28. Authorized Treatment of Program Income ADDITIONAL COSTS</p> <p>29. Grants Management Officer - Signature [REDACTED]</p>	Summary Federal Award Financial Information		19. Budget Period Start Date [REDACTED] - End Date [REDACTED]		20. Total Amount of Federal Funds Obligated by this Action	\$500,000.00	20a. Direct Cost Amount	\$454,640.00	20b. Indirect Cost Amount	\$45,360.00	21. Authorized Carryover	\$0.00	22. Offset	\$0.00	23. Total Amount of Federal Funds Obligated this budget period	\$0.00	24. Total Approved Cost Sharing or Matching, where applicable	\$0.00	25. Total Federal and Non-Federal Approved this Budget Period	\$500,000.00	26. Period of Performance Start Date [REDACTED] - End Date [REDACTED]		27. Total Amount of the Federal Award including Approved Cost Sharing or Matching this Period of Performance	\$500,000.00
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<p>30. Remarks <small>See Remarks (continuation)</small></p>																									

A microlearning video on how to complete this request is available on [Prospective HVRP Applicant Resources – National Veterans’ Technical Assistance Center](#). The applicant **must** submit the NOA attachment in [Grants.gov](#) under “Other Attachments.” The naming convention for the attachment **must** be “CoPP_NOA.pdf.”

V. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINES

A. How to Obtain an Application Package

This FOA, found at [Grants.gov](#), contains all the information and links to forms needed to apply for grant funding.

B. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management

All applicants for federal grant funding **must** have a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and be registered in the System for Award Management (SAM).

For a complete understanding of this application requirement, see the [2025 Application Guide](#), Section V.B Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management.

C. Submission Instructions

Applicants must electronically submit their application through [Grants.gov](https://grants.gov) by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on March 6, 2026. We will not review applications received after 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on the closing date. We will not accept applications sent by hardcopy (mail or hand delivery), e-mail, telegram, or facsimile (FAX).

For a complete understanding of this application requirement, see the [2025 Application Guide](#), Section V.C Submission Instructions.

D. Intergovernmental Review

This funding opportunity is not subject to Executive Order 12372, “Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs.”

E. Other Submission Requirements

If you encounter a problem with [Grants.gov](https://grants.gov) and do not find an answer in any of the other resources, call 1-800-518-4726 or 606-545-5035 to speak to a Customer Support Representative or email support@grants.gov.

VI. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

A. Responsiveness Review

Application Screening Criteria

Use the checklist below as a guide when preparing your application package to ensure your application meets all of the screening criteria and contains all required items. Applicants should **not** include the checklist in the application package. Applications that do **not** meet all the requirements in the table below will **not** move forward through the merit review process or be considered for an award.

Application Requirement	Instructions	Complete?
Electronic submission requirements through Grants.gov are met no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on the closing date.	Section V.C	
The organization meets Eligibility criteria.	Section II.A	
The organization’s previous federally awarded grants (if applicable) have never been terminated.	Section II.A	
Employer Identification Number (EIN) must match the legal name in SAM.gov and the legal name on the application’s SF-424, <i>Application for Federal Assistance</i> .	Section II.A	
Components of the application are saved in one of the specified formats and are not corrupt. (<i>We will attempt to open the document but will not take any additional measures in the event of problems with opening.</i>)	Section V.C	

Application Requirement	Instructions	Complete?
The federal fund request for the first year of the PoP falls within the required threshold (maximum of \$500,000 and minimum of \$150,000).	Section IV.B	
The organization has an active System for Award Management (SAM.gov) Registration .	Section V.B	
SF-424, <i>Application for Federal Assistance</i> includes the applicant's Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and line 18a falls within the required threshold (maximum of \$500,000 and minimum of \$150,000).	Section V.B	
SF-424A, <i>Budget Information Form</i> . (Total reflects the annual first year amount requested on the SF-424 and Abstract: maximum of \$500,000 and minimum of \$150,000.)	Section IV.B	
Standalone Budget Narrative. (Total reflects the amount requested on the SF-424: maximum of \$500,000 and minimum of \$150,000.) A sample format is available at Attachment B, <i>Budget Narrative Template</i> .	Section IV.B	
Standalone Project Narrative.	Section IV.C	
PDF(s) of the StatsAmerica Big Radius Tool 50-Mile Radius Validation to verify physical location requirements meet the 50-mile radius. The city (or county if city option is not available) in the Tool must match the city/cities in the PY26 VETS-704 Form – Abstract (tab 1).	Section IV.C	
The requested SDA in the PY26 VETS-704 Form – <i>Abstract</i> (tab 2) must match the SDA referenced in the Project Narrative.	Section IV.C	
PY26 Chart of Past Performance (<i>Attachment C</i>).	Section IV.C	
PY26 VETS-704 Form – <i>Abstract and Planned Goals Chart</i> (all tabs in Attachment A).	Section IV.C	

B. Review Criteria

Criterion	Points (Maximum)
1. Statement of Need (See Section IV.C.1 Statement of Need)	11 total
2. Expected Outputs and Outcomes (See Section IV.C.2 Expected Outcomes and Outputs)	20 total
3. Project Design (See Section IV.C.3 Project Design)	23 total
4. Organizational, Administrative, and Fiscal Capacity (See Section IV.C.4 Organizational, Administrative, and Fiscal Capacity)	3 total
5. Past Performance – Programmatic Capability (See Section IV.C.5 Past Performance – Programmatic Capability)	30 total
6. Budget and Budget Narrative (See Section IV.B.1 Budget Narrative)	13 total
TOTAL	100

For a complete understanding of this application requirement, see the [2025 Application Guide](#), Section VI.B Review Criteria.

C. Review and Selection Process

Merit Review and Selection Process

A technical merit review panel will carefully evaluate applications based on the selection criteria. As outlined in Section VI.B above, the selection criteria are based on the policy goals and priorities explained in this FOA.

Up to 100 points may be awarded to an applicant, depending on the quality of the responses provided. The final scores (which may include the mathematical normalization of review panels) will serve as the primary basis for selecting applications for funding. The panel results are advisory in nature and not binding on the Grant Officer. The Grant Officer can make selections based solely on the final scores or take into consideration other relevant factors when applicable. Such factors may include the geographic distribution of funds, saturation levels of grant recipients relative to homeless veteran population in an applicant's proposed service area, duplication of service areas, and other relevant factors. The Grant Officer may consider any information that comes to their attention.

The government may elect to award the grant(s) with or without discussion with the applicant. If a grant is awarded without discussion, the award will be based on the applicant's signature on the SF-424, including electronic signature via E-Authentication on [Grants.gov](#), which constitutes a binding offer by the applicant.

Prior to issuance, and annually thereafter, awards will be subject to review by one or more DOL senior appointees, or their designees, according to the process described in [Executive Order 14332, Improving Oversight of Federal Grantmaking](#).

D. Risk Review

Risk Review Process

Before making an award, ETA will consider any information about the applicant that is in the responsibility/qualification records available in [SAM.gov](#) (see 41 U.S.C. § 2313). For ETA to assess the applicant's Financial System, all applicants need to submit the Financial Risk Assessment explained in the application guide (Section VI.D) at the link below.

For a complete understanding of this application requirement, see the [2025 Application Guide](#), Section VI.D Risk Review.

VII. AWARD NOTICES

A. Award Document

A Federal Notice of Award document, signed by the Grant Officer, is the official document that obligates funds. If selected, this document will be provided electronically.

B. Award Timing and Notification to Applicants

All award notifications will be posted on the [DOL/VETS Homepage](#) (<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/vets/>). Applicants selected for award will be contacted directly before the grant's execution. Non-selected applicants will be notified by e-mail and may request a written debriefing on the significant weaknesses of their application.

Selection of an organization as a recipient does not mean that their grant application is approved as submitted. Before the actual grant is awarded, we may enter into negotiations about such items as program components, staffing and funding levels, and administrative systems in place to support grant implementation. If the negotiations do not result in a mutually acceptable submission, the Grant Officer reserves the right to terminate the negotiations and decline to fund the application. We reserve the right not to fund any application related to this FOA.

VIII. POST AWARD REQUIREMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

A. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

1. Administrative Program Requirements

All grant recipients will be subject to all applicable federal laws and regulations, including the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Uniform Guidance, and the terms and conditions of the award. For a complete understanding of this application requirement, see the [2025 Application Guide](#), Section VIII.A Administrative and National Policy Requirements.

2. Religious Activities

Guidance from DOL on the effect of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act on recipients of DOL financial assistance is found at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/oasam/grants/religious-freedom-restoration-act/guidance>.

For a complete understanding of this application requirement, see the [2025 Application Guide](#), Section VIII.A Administrative and National Policy Requirements.

3. Other Legal Requirements

For a complete understanding of the application requirements on Lobbying or Fundraising with Federal Funds; Transparency Act; Safeguarding Data Including Personally Identifiable Information (PII); Record Retention; Use of Contracts and Subawards; and Grant Closeout, see the [2025 Application Guide](#), Section VIII.A Administrative and National Policy Requirements.

4. Other Administrative Standards and Provisions

Except as specifically provided in this FOA, our acceptance of an application and an award of federal funds to sponsor any programs(s) does not provide a waiver of any grant requirements and/or procedures. For example, the OMB Uniform Guidance requires that an entity's procurement procedures ensure that all procurement transactions are conducted, as much as practical, to provide full and open competition. If an application identifies a specific entity to provide goods or services, the award does not provide the justification or basis to sole source the procurement (i.e., avoid competition).

For a complete understanding of this application requirement, see the [2025 Application Guide](#), Section VIII.A Administrative and National Policy Requirements.

DOL Disclaimer

If applicable, a standard VETS disclaimer needs to be on all products developed as a whole or in part with grant funds.

For a complete understanding of this application requirement, see the [2025 Application Guide](#), Section VIII.A Administrative and National Policy Requirements.

Intellectual Property Rights and Open Licensing

All work created using grant funds must be in a format that is readily accessible and available for open licensing to the public. This is required by 2 C.F.R. Part 2900.13 and 2 C.F.R. § 200.315(d) to ensure DOL funds have as broad an impact as possible and to encourage innovation and the development of new learning materials.

For a complete understanding of this application requirement, see the [2025 Application Guide](#), Section VIII.A Administrative and National Policy Requirements.

Credential Transparency

DOL requires that grant recipients make publicly available information about industry-recognized credentials using linked open data formats that support full transparency and interoperability. This ensures individuals, employers, educators, and training providers have access to the most complete, current and beneficial information about providers, programs credentials, and competencies supported by federal funds. For a complete understanding of this

application requirement, see the [2025 Application Guide](#), Section VIII.A Administrative and National Policy Requirements.

5. Special Program Requirements

Performance Goals

Please note that applicants will be held to outcomes provided at application and failure to meet those outcomes may result in technical assistance or other intervention by DOL/VETS, such as a Corrective Action Plan. Failure to meet performance goals may also have a significant impact on future grants with DOL/VETS. Grant recipients that request a reduction of planned goals throughout their PoP, in accordance with the most current guidance on this subject, may be subject to reduced funding.

B. Reporting

You **must** meet DOL/VETS reporting requirements found in [VPL 02-25 HVRP Performance Management and Reporting](#) or the most current guidance on this topic. For a complete understanding of this application requirement, see the [2025 Application Guide](#), Section VIII.B Reporting.

IX. RESOURCES

For additional information on A. Web-Based Resources; B. Industry Competency Models and Career Clusters; C. WorkforceGPS; D. DOL's Clearinghouse for Evaluation and Research (CLEAR); and E. Data and Other Evidence Research Resources, see the [2025 Application Guide](#), Section IX External Resources.

X. OMB INFORMATION COLLECTION

OMB Information Collection No 1225-0086, Expires June 30, 2028.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 50 hours per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

Send comments about the burden estimated or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the U.S. Department of Labor, to the attention of the Departmental Clearance Officer, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Room N1301, Washington, D.C. 20210. Comments may also be e-mailed to: DOL_PRA_PUBLIC@dol.gov.

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR GRANT APPLICATION TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND ONLY COMMENTS ABOUT THE BURDEN CAUSED BY THE COLLECTION OF INFORMATION TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND YOUR GRANT APPLICATION TO THE SPONSORING AGENCY AS SPECIFIED EARLIER IN THIS ANNOUNCEMENT.

This information is being collected for the purpose of awarding a grant. DOL will use the information collected through this “Funding Opportunity Announcement” to ensure that grants are awarded to the applicants best suited to perform the functions of the grant. This information is required to be considered for this grant.

Signed 01/16/2026 in Washington, D.C. by:

Kia Mason

Grant Officer, Employment and Training Administration