

Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP) Information Session: Wednesday, September 24, 2025

Questions and Answers (Q&A)

Overview

The following Q&A document provides responses to questions posed at the HVRP Information Session intended for rural organizations on September 24, 2025. Questions have been synthesized for clarity.

Q&A

Q1: Does the U.S. Department of Labor, Veterans' Employment and Training Service (DOL/VETS) or HVRP include a Military Sexual Trauma (MST) program in addition to the homeless programs? I work with the homeless women veteran population, most of whom are MST connected.

A1: No. DOL/VETS does not have programs specifically for MST connected individuals. However, if they meet eligibility criteria, MST connected individuals can be HVRP participants. HVRP grant recipients are also encouraged to connect with, refer to, and collaborate with partner agencies at all levels (federal, state, local) in support of their participants. These connections can include working with programs that offer supportive services for veterans with MST, like the Veterans Health Administration (VHA).

Q2: Would we be able to use the Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) Status Query and Response Exchange System (SQUARES) as HVRP grant recipients?

A2: To participate in HVRP, an individual must be a veteran **and** either experiencing homelessness **or** at risk of homelessness **or** participating in a qualifying partner service, **or** transitioning from certain institutions **and** in need of or would benefit from employment services. To provide HVRP services, grant recipients must collect, in an individual's participant case file, source documentation of eligibility.

To document the participant's veteran status, the case file **must** include a DD-214 that provides the character of discharge (any one of copies 2–8) or other acceptable forms of documentation as described in [Veterans' Program Letter \(VPL\) 06-24](#). To expedite services, VETS allows grant recipients to conditionally enroll, provide services to, and report veteran participation in the quarterly performance reports using two alternative source documents: Veterans Benefits Management System (VBMS) documentation and SQUARES documentation. Both VA inquiry systems are free of charge. Each grant recipient must request their own access to these systems by following the instructions in the Appendix of [VPL 06-24](#).

Please be advised: SQUARES documentation is an interim solution. The grant recipient **must** obtain a DD-214 or other approved documentation of veteran status in the client's file. The grant recipient cannot claim a placement for a participant until they have proper documentation.

Q3: Can a veteran who receives or has received VA disability benefits qualify for HVRP?

A3: Yes. If an individual meets HVRP eligibility criteria, that veteran who receives or has received VA disability benefits can be enrolled in HVRP. Receiving VA disability benefits or other local, state, and federal benefits does not disqualify an individual that is otherwise eligible from participating in HVRP.

Q4: Are grant awards based on how many veterans are in a given service area? What if we have a smaller population of veterans in rural Alaska than in the bigger cities?

A4: Yes. In addition to other considerations, the grant award should be based on how many veterans an organization expects to serve in the requested service delivery area (SDA). Each HVRP Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) will specify the award ceiling and floor amounts that may be requested for one year. Within the minimum and maximum range provided, award amounts vary widely because all costs must be allocable to the proposed project and aligned with the number of veterans expected to be served during the grant period within the specified SDA(s). All applications must include a Budget Narrative detailing a one-year budget. The Budget Narrative should be consistent with and directly support the activities, resources, staffing, and other elements described in the Project Narrative. For more information on developing a grant budget, please consider watching our microlearning on the [Prospective HVRP Applicant Resources](#) page on our website.

Q5: Can organizations that hold other federal grants (i.e., Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)) collaborate with HVRP grant recipients?

A5: Yes! Grant recipients collaborate with public and private partners at all levels (federal, state and local) to provide supportive services and access to housing to their participants.

Q6: Can HVRP serve veterans with an Individual Unemployability rating from the VA?

A6: Yes. HVRP can serve veterans with an Individual Unemployability rating from the VA as long as they meet HVRP eligibility requirements. To qualify for HVRP services, an individual must:

1. Meet the definition of a "veteran"; **and**
2. Be experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness or participating in a qualifying partner service, or transitioning from certain institutions; **and**
3. Be in need of or would benefit from employment services.

For more information about HVRP eligibility criteria, see [VPL 06-24](#).

Q7: Are there HVRP grant recipients serving Pennsylvania?

A7: Yes. The HVRP grant recipients providing services in Pennsylvania include Veterans Leadership Program of Western Pennsylvania, Veterans Place of Washington Boulevard, Veterans Multi-Service Center, and Commission on Economic Opportunity. As of the publication of this Q&A, the most up-to-date resource to identify HVRP grant recipients near you is the [list of PY25 HVRP grant recipients](#) on [NVTAC's website](#).

Q8: How can/has the HVRP grant been used in higher education?

A8: Historically, public and state-controlled institutions of higher education and private institutions of higher education have been eligible to apply for HVRP funding. Regardless of the type of organization holding the grant, HVRP grant recipients are required to provide the same core services to their veteran participants as outlined here: [Services | U.S. Department of Labor](#).

Q9: Can you provide more details on HVRP's offerings specifically for homeless women veterans and veterans with children?

A9: DOL/VETS funds three types of competitive grants. HVRP helps all eligible veterans in need. The Incarcerated Veterans' Transition Program (IVTP) focuses on veterans who are involved in the justice system or are moving on from certain institutions. **The Homeless Women Veterans and Homeless Veterans with Children Reintegration Program (HWVHWC) is specifically for homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children.** These programs are collectively referred to as HVRP.

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](#) or the most current guidance on this topic for details pertaining to the allowability of these costs under HVRP.

Q10: Can HVRP funding be used to address other underlying issues for participants such as mental health, suicide prevention, housing, etc.?

A10: HVRP is an employment-focused grant. A participant support cost may only be provided to participants to enable their participation in HVRP services and must be tied to a specific HVRP service; it is not intended to meet every need of the participant.

Case management is a client-centered approach in the delivery of individualized career services designed to develop comprehensive employment plans for participants, assist participants to overcome barriers to employment, ensure access to the necessary training and supportive services that impart relevant skills and connect participants with high-quality career opportunities, and provide support during program participation and after job placement.

Supportive services are provided to assist enrolled HVRP participants with overcoming all barriers to employment and support their reintegration back into the labor force. Examples of supportive services include, but are not limited to, transportation, healthcare, financial assistance, drug and alcohol abuse counseling and referral, individual and family counseling, job coaches, childcare and dependent care (if eligible), temporary shelter (if eligible), financial counseling, and other reasonable expenses required for participation in the training program. Supportive services may be provided in-kind or through partnerships.

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](#).