



STOP Competitive Application Process 2025-2027

Informational Session for 2025-2027 STOP
Competitive Grant Applicants

Today's Agenda

This session will provide an overview of:

- PCCD and the STOP Formula Grant Program
- The 2025-2027 Competitive STOP Solicitation
- Mechanics of Application Process

This session is being recorded.

• Who we are....

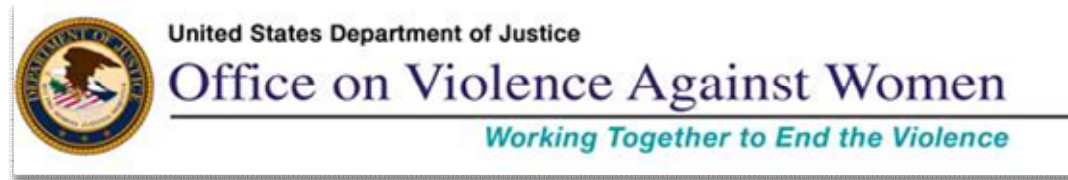
The **P**ennsylvania **C**ommission on **C**rime and **D**elinquency is the lead criminal justice system planning agency for Pennsylvania.

The Office of Victim Services helps crime victims transcend their trauma by funding victim service agencies that work directly with victims, provide financial help to victims through the Victims Compensation Assistance Program (VCAP) and collaborates with criminal justice and allied professionals that advocate and respond to the needs of victims.

[Find out more about PCCD and OVS by visiting \[www.pccd.pa.gov\]\(http://www.pccd.pa.gov\)](http://www.pccd.pa.gov)

▶ What is the STOP Violence Against Women Program?

- Federal Funding Stream Administered by the Office on Violence Against Women
- Authorized by the Violence Against Women Act of 1995 (Reauthorized in 2022)
- STOP stands for **S**ervices, **T**raining, **O**fficers, **P**rosecutors
- While “Women” is in the title, victims are eligible to receive services regardless of gender or gender identity.



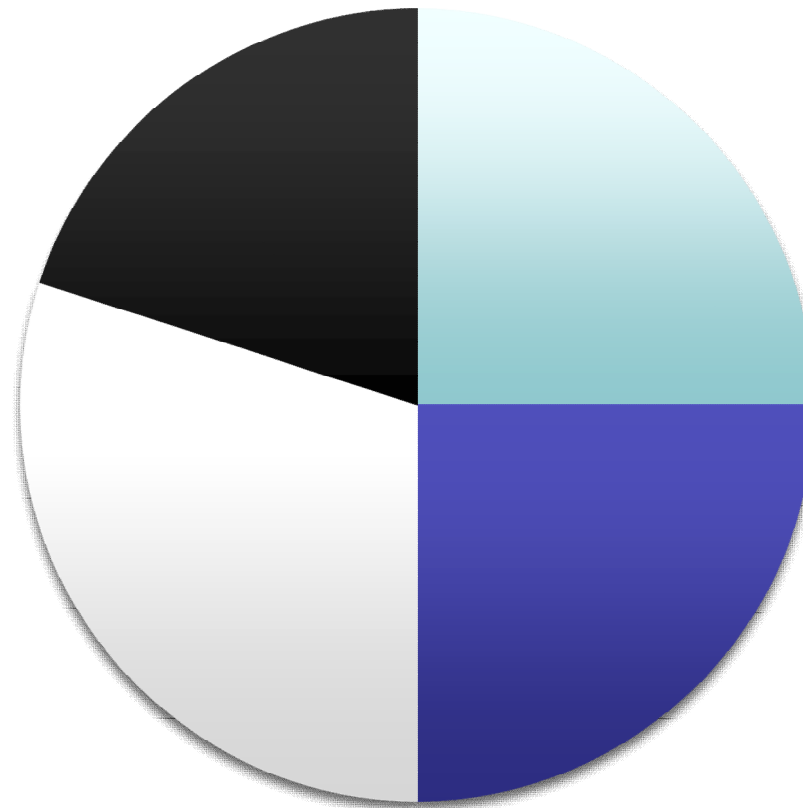
Let's STOP for a Minute



The STOP Formula Grant Program is *very* specialized.

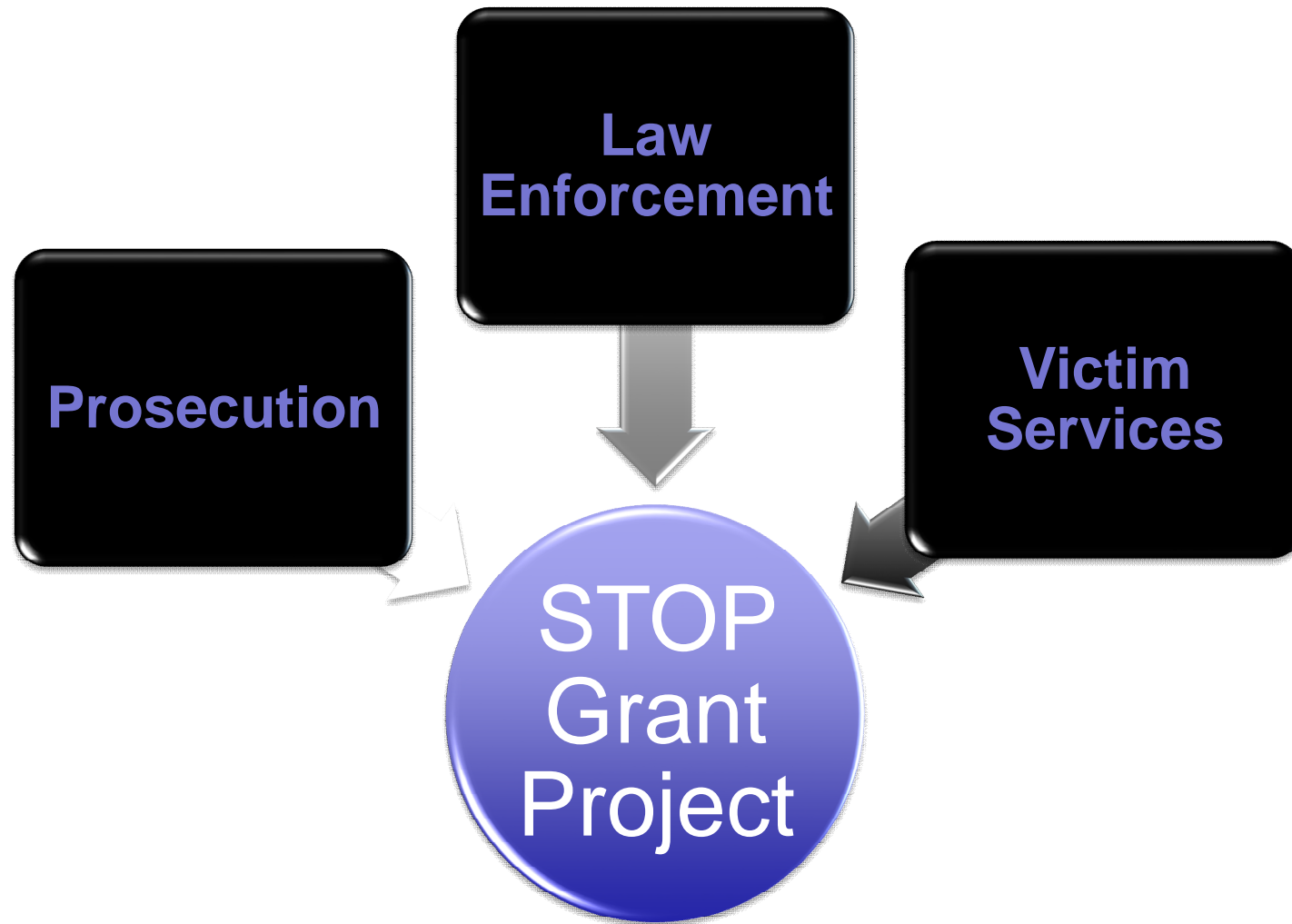
Allocation of Funds Required by STOP

Allocation



■ Prosecution 25% ■ Law Enforcement 25% ■ Victim Services 30% ■ Discretionary 20%

Collaboration is Essential



STOP Philosophy is to balance

Victim Safety



Offender Accountability

STOP Implementation Plan

- The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) requires each state to produce a four-year “Implementation Plan” in order to obtain the grant funding.
- The Implementation Plan is a blueprint for how Pennsylvania will use the STOP funding.
- The STOP Implementation Plan is created by a statewide committee that includes stakeholders from all the agencies and systems that play a role in response to violence against women.
- The STOP Implementation Plan drives PCCD’s solicitations and recommendations on competitive applications.

Our Recommendation to You...



- Take time to read the [STOP Implementation Plan](#).
- Make sure you read Appendix G – STOP Implementation Plan Addendum
 - 2022 Reauthorization of VAWA created new purpose areas and a new certification.
 - Addendum discusses how these enhance the original plan and what changes were accepted by the Commission.

2025-2027 STOP Competitive Solicitation

What you need to know before you start...

SAM Unique Identify Identifier Number

- Agencies must register with SAM and receive a Unique Identity Identifier Number in order to be considered for funding.
- The agency should confirm that this has been done and if not, begin the process immediately to ensure your proposed project is eligible.

See the [Federal Application Requirements page](#) under Funding on PCCD's website for further information

▶ Uniform Crime Report (UCR) Data

- Every criminal justice entity participating in STOP must submit Uniform Crime Report (UCR) Data to the Pennsylvania State Police



How to Submit Your STOP Application

PCCD Egrants System:

- Applications must be submitted electronically through PCCD's electronic grants management system [Egrants](#).
- To use Egrants, you need to register your agency and register at least two users. **(Page 23 of [solicitation](#))**
- For questions contact the Egrants help desk at 717-787-5887 or toll free at 800-692-7292. At the prompt select option 9 then option 6



STOP Federal Certification Requirements

Costs for Criminal Charges or Protection Orders

- The applicant's policies or practices can't require victims to bear the costs associated with the filing of criminal charges against the offender or the costs associated with the filing, issuance, registration, modification or service of a warrant, protection order, petition for a protection order or witness subpoena.

Forensic Rape Examinations

- Victims of sexual assault cannot be billed for the cost of a forensic rape exam.
 - This includes making the victim use insurance to cover the cost of the exam
- Victims do not need to report the sexual assault to law enforcement or talk to law enforcement as a condition for not being billed for a forensic rape exam.
- In Pennsylvania, the [Victims' Compensation Assistance Program \(VCAP\)](#) provides payment for forensic rape exams.

The Pennsylvania Coalition to Advance Respect (PCAR), their member rape crisis programs and PCCD's VCAP have done extensive outreach to Pennsylvania hospitals to make sure that they are aware of this certification and the process for submitting forensic rape exam claims.



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Judicial Notification

Applicants must certify that courts have policies and practices to provide notification to domestic violence offenders regarding laws addressing firearms and domestic violence.

- Offenders must be informed either verbally or in written form that if they are subject to a final Protection From Abuse (PFA) Order or plead guilty to a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence that they could lose their ability to possess firearms.

U.S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

OMB No. 1145-0020

Firearms Transaction Record

WARNING: You may not receive a firearm if prohibited by Federal or State law. The information you provide will be used to determine whether you are prohibited from receiving a firearm. Certain violations of the Gun Control Act, 18 U.S.C. 921 et. seq., are punishable by up to 10 years imprisonment and/or up to a \$250,000 fine.

Read the Notices, Instructions, and Definitions on this form. Prepare in original only at the licensed premises ("licensed premises" includes business temporarily conducted from a qualifying gun show or event in the same State in which the licensed premises is located) unless the transaction qualifies under 18 U.S.C. 922(c). All entries must be handwritten in ink. "PLEASE PRINT."

Section A - Must Be Completed Personally By Transferee/Buyer

1. Transferee's/Buyer's Full Name (If legal name contains an initial only, record "IO" after the initial. If no middle initial or name, record "NMN")
Last Name (Including suffix (e.g., Jr., Sr., II, III)) First Name Middle Name

2. Current State of Residence and Address (U.S. Postal abbreviations are acceptable. Cannot be a post office box.)
Number and Street Address City County State ZIP Code

3. Place of Birth
U.S. City and State -OR- Foreign Country

4. Height (In.) Weight (Lbs.) 5. Sex (Male/Female) 6. Birth Date (Mouth/Day/Year)

7. Social Security Number (Optional, but will help with identification) 8. Unique Personal Identification Number (if applicable) (See instructions for details)

10.a. Ethnicity (In addition to ethnicity, select race in 10.b. Both 10.a. and 10.b. must be answered.)
 Hispanic or Latino American Indian or Alaska Native Black or African American White
 Not Hispanic or Latino Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

11. Answer the following questions (check in "Yes" or "No" column to the right of the questions)

Question	Yes	No
a. Are you the actual transferee/buyer of the firearm(s) listed on this form? (Warning: You are not the actual transferee/buyer if you are acquiring the firearm(s) on behalf of another person. If you are not the actual transferee/buyer, the licensee cannot transfer the firearm(s) to you. Exception: If you are picking up pre-ordered firearm(s) for another person, you are not required to answer 11 a.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Have you ever been convicted in any court of a felony, or any other crime for which the judge could imprison you for more than one year? (See instructions for Question 11 b.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Have you ever been convicted in any court of a felony, or any other crime for which the judge could have imprisoned you for more than one year, even if you received a shorter sentence including probation? (See instructions for Question 11 c.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Are you a fugitive from justice? (See instructions for Question 11 d.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

AMMO.COM

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Polygraphs or Other Truth Telling Devices

Applicants must certify that:

- Its laws, policies or practices ensure that no law enforcement officer, prosecuting officer or other governmental official shall ask or require an adult, youth or child of an alleged sex offense to submit to a polygraph examination or other truth telling device as a condition for proceeding with the investigation
- The refusal of a victim to submit to a polygraph examination or other truth telling device shall not prevent the investigation, charging, or prosecution of an alleged sex offense

Evidence-Based Prosecution

- **Prosecutor's Offices must certify that they will complete the following within three years of receipt of the grant:**

1

Develop training regarding victim-centered approaches in domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking cases

2

Develop policies that support a victim-centered approach, informed by such training

3

Implement protocols that support the use of evidence-based prosecution

Legal Assistance Certification

Attorneys funded to provide legal assistance must meet the following criteria:

- *Must be licensed*
- *Must be accredited by the Board of Immigration Appeals if assisting with immigration proceedings*
- *Must be accredited in order to assist with Veterans Administration Claims*
- *Demonstrates Expertise in providing legal Assistance to victims of DV, SA, and Stalking*





2025-2027 STOP Competitive Solicitation

STOP Purpose Areas and Priorities

The Basics

- \$12 Million over the next 3 years
 - \$375,000 per project for three years,
 - \$125,000 maximum per year
 - Applicants will submit a budget for an initial year of funding, with Years Two (2) and Three (3) awarded as continuation applications.
- Applicant Agencies
 - County government or
 - Non-profit victim service agencies
- No Match

Federal Purpose Areas

Eligible Program Activities and Expenses include, but are not limited to:

- Training and Professional Development
- Personnel and Benefit Costs
- Specialized Units (Law Enforcement and Prosecution)
- Protocol Development
- Victim services – Core Services, Underserved/Culturally Specific/Immigration, Sexual Assault Response Teams

The Federal Purposes Areas are intentionally broad. It is up to the applicant to propose specific activities under a particular purpose area.

See page 15 of the [Solicitation](#)

► Highlights of newly added Purpose Areas under VAWA 2022

- Improving evidence collection in domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking cases through the use of improved technology;
- Providing culturally specific services to victims of female genital mutilation and cutting;
- Paying governmental fees for furnishing of birth certificates, passports, and ID's for victims and their children.

Federally Required Focus Areas

- Culturally Specific and Underserved Populations
- Sexual Assault Set Aside
- Domestic Violence Homicide Reduction

Applicants are encouraged to address one or more of these focus areas in their proposal.

See pages 7 o 9 of the [Solicitation](#)

➤ Culturally Specific and Underserved Populations

Identify and Address Barriers to Service by:

- Prioritizing funding for improving the response to culturally specific and underserved populations;
- Providing training to develop culturally competent first responders;
- Encouraging partnership and collaboration with organizations that serve culturally specific and underserved communities;
- Increasing awareness of STOP funded services by such communities.

Underserved Populations

- Underserved populations are populations who face barriers in accessing and using victim services
- Could be underserved because of race/ethnicity, geographic location, religion, LGBTQ+, race/ethnicity, disability, language barriers, immigration status, elder victims, victims of human trafficking, and mental health and substance abuse disorders
- Partnerships between victim service agencies and organizations to collaborate to meet the needs of underserved populations is strongly encouraged
- Additionally, if your application proposes to serve an underserved population, PCCD expects that a representative from that underserved population will be added to and meaningfully involved in the work of the STOP Coordinating Team

Culturally Specific Populations

- Culturally specific – primarily directed towards racial and ethnic minority groups
- Applicants are encouraged to review current census data and PCCD's current STOP Implementation Plan
- Engage culturally specific community-based agencies as collaborative partners on your STOP Project and include on your STOP Team.

For further information, see page 8 of the [Solicitation](#)

Sexual Assault Set Aside

Improve Coordinated Response to Sexual Assault

- Increase Multidisciplinary Sexual Assault Response Teams (SART's)
- Develop training programs for successful sexual assault prosecutions
- Increase hospital personnel trained in trauma informed care for victims of sexual assault to include Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE's)

▶ Domestic Violence Homicide Reduction

Reduce Domestic Violence related Homicides in PA

- Partner with the PA Coalition against Domestic Violence ([PCADV](#)) to increase utilization of the Maryland Model of Lethality Assessment Program ([LAP](#))
- Ensure Consistent Implementation of [ACT 79](#)

Guiding Principles

- Cultural Appropriateness
- Diffusion of Knowledge
- Advanced Training Topics
- Trauma Informed Practices

For further information, see pages 9 and 10 of the [Solicitation](#)

Core Direct Services to Victims

- Crisis Intervention
- Supportive Counseling
- Victim advocacy and accompaniment
- Language access
- Legal advocacy
- Attorney Assistance
- Emergency housing
- Safety Planning
- Victims Compensation
- Transportation

Specialized Units

Specialized units within law enforcement, prosecution and victim services are a core component of STOP. Specialized units help create an environment in which:

- Law enforcement and prosecution deepen their understanding of the dynamics of intimate partner violence, stalking, and sexual assault victims
- Trust can be developed between victims and the criminal justice system
- Offenders can be held accountable even if victims choose not to cooperate

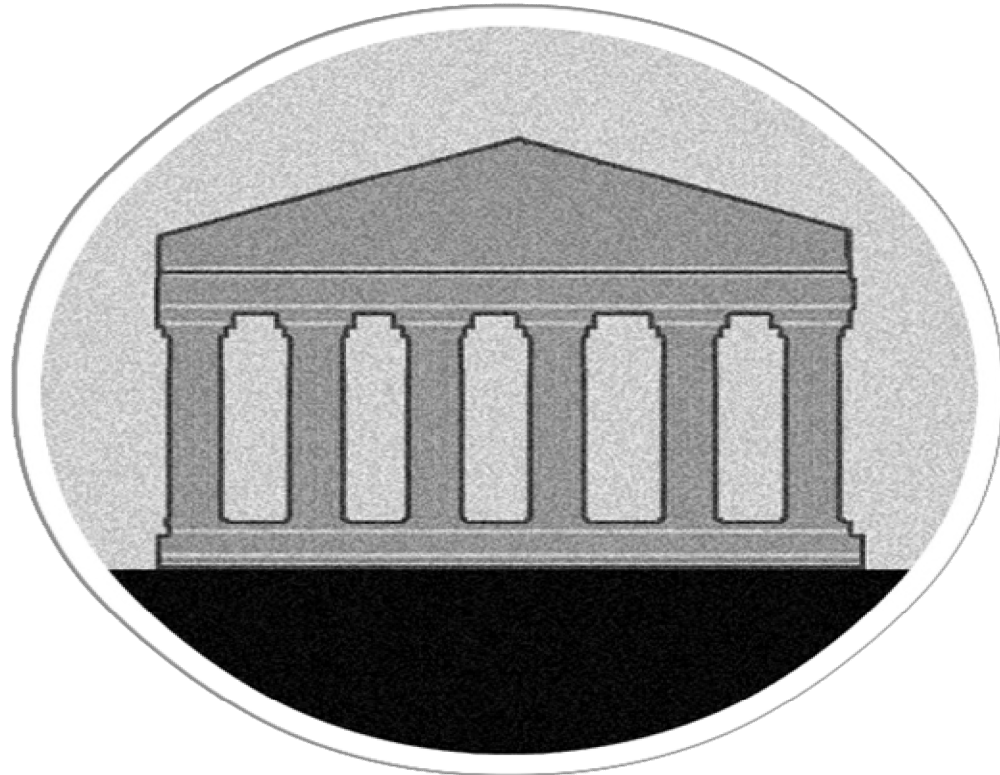
Law Enforcement



Full-time or Part-time officers or detectives who cultivate the knowledge, skills and professional experience needed to effectively investigate violence against women crimes. Law enforcement can also include probation and parole officers.



Prosecution



Full-time or Part-time ADA's who cultivate the knowledge, skills and professional experience needed to effectively prepare cases and prosecute violence against women crimes to include support of evidence-based prosecution strategies.

Training

There are two types of training that can be supported through STOP projects:

Professional Development

- Outside trainings **for** law enforcement, prosecutors, victim advocates, etc. (i.e. national or state conferences, webinars, etc.).

Multidisciplinary Training

- Training for STOP Team membership and local allied professionals (i.e. support a trainer coming to your community).
- Applicant must provide letters of support from local stakeholders.

Pennsylvania STOP Requirements

STOP Coordinating Teams & collaborative
Response Protocols

STOP Team Requirements

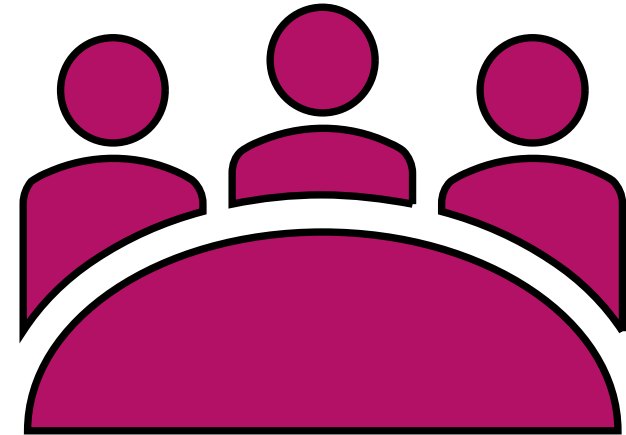
- Coordinating Team or Multidisciplinary MOU
- Team List or Multidisciplinary MOU
 - Uploaded to Attachments Section
- Must include Victim Services, DA, Law Enforcement, PSP, Probation/Parole, Healthcare Representative.
- Must Meet a minimum of four times per year

See Page 14 of the [Solicitation](#) for more detail

Meeting Minutes

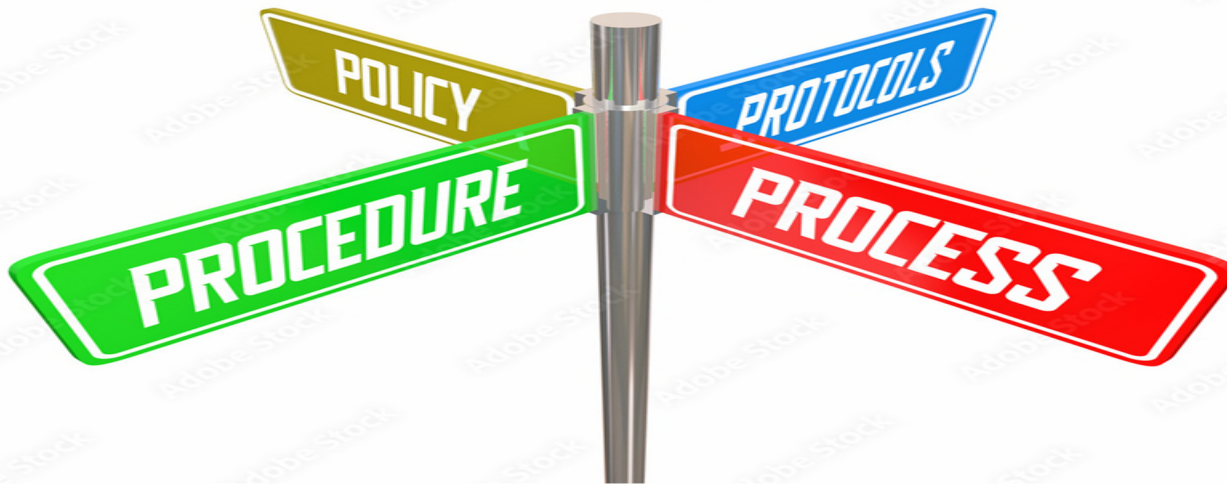
STOP Teams must maintain comprehensive meeting minutes which should contain the following:

- ✓ Date and time of meeting
- ✓ Attendance
- ✓ Topics discussed
- ✓ Member contributions to discussion
- ✓ Decisions/ resolutions
- ✓ Action items for follow-up



Protocol Development

All STOP funded Counties must complete written response protocols for domestic violence and sexual assault.



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▶ Protocol Development Should:

- ▶ Be a collaborative process
- ▶ Involve input from all stakeholders
- ▶ Address all required components of the [DV](#) and [SA](#) protocol development guides released by PCCD
- ▶ Current STOP Grant recipients are required to have necessary revisions completed by 12-31-24.



Prohibited Practices & Ineligible Activities

STOP Formula Grant Program

Prohibited Practices

Remember: STOP's philosophical basis is victim safety and offender accountability.

Applicants must not engage in practices that jeopardize victim safety, retraumatize victims and/or undermine offender accountability.

See pages 10 and 11 of the [Solicitation](#) for more details

- Refusal of services based on discriminatory practices
- Procedures that compromise the confidentiality of victims
- Requiring victims to report abuse to law enforcement
- Placing restrictive conditions on services
- Requiring mediation or couples counseling
- Failing to include safety planning in services
- Penalizing or imposing sanctions on VAW victims for failure to testify against abuser/perpetrator

Ineligible Program Activities

Lobbying

Fundraising

Services that focus exclusively on Children (ages 0 to 10)

Moving expenses

Standard law enforcement items

Mechanical lie detection equipment

Immigration fees

Food and beverages for training

Construction and renovation

Vehicle purchase

Home office and related utilities

Honoraria

Research projects

Building renovations

Prevention programs & media campaigns

Other Special Conditions

- Non-disclosure of Personally Identifiable Information (PII)
- Requirement to report breach of PII
- Certification of Employment Eligibility
- Policy for workplace sexual misconduct/ violence
- Suitability to interact with minors
- Prohibited practices related to human trafficking
- Blocking of pornography on computer networks

See pages 11-13 of the [Solicitation](#) for more details

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

All Grantees are required to:

- Establish and maintain auditable records
- Accurately account for funds awarded
- Account for funds from each award separately from other grants and other funding sources
- Have strong internal controls and proper segregation of duties

Specific grants management requirements are discussed in detail on PCCD's website, under the [Funding](#) Tab.



2025-2027 STOP Competitive Solicitation

Sections and Scoring

Executive Summary 5 points

This section is **worth up to 5 points** and must include:

- Applicant Program Name
- Total Amount of Funding Requested
- Brief explanation of what you plan to implement
- List of what funds will be used for

***follow the script**



➤ Problem Description 25 Points

Provide a general overview of Violence Against Women in your county/geographic region to be served which includes:

Indicate whether applicant is a current recipient of STOP Funding. If yes, provide update.

Demographic information including any underserved populations

Geographic and Socioeconomic conditions and how these factors contribute to violence against women crimes

Nature/extent of violence against women crimes

Current response systems in place

Current services available to victims

Description of current cross-system collaboration among law enforcement, victim services and prosecution

Project Description 30 points

This is where you provide an explanation of what your project is and how it will be carried out. Be sure to identify:

- Project partners
- Program goals and objectives for all three years of the project.
- Purpose areas
- Core services
- Target culturally specific and underserved populations (if applicable)
- Addressing needs of sexual assault victims (if applicable)
- Guiding principles and approaches
- Compliance with federal certifications

Budget Detail and Narrative 30 Points

Provide a **1-year budget of up to 125k** directly related to the proposed project and include:

- Line-item costs and the computations used to determine those amounts
- Justification in each budget detail section which explains the relationship between that specific expenditure and the proposed project
- Justification for each budgeted agency and/or component of the project
- Minimum dedicated amounts: 25% Law Enforcement, 25% Prosecution, 30% Victim Services
- The remaining percentage is discretionary so it can be applied among the three components as needed given the goals, objectives and activities of the project.

Additional detail on the requirements of this section as well as examples can be found on pages 18 and 19 of the [Solicitation](#)

Evaluation 10 Points

- How progress on project goals are measured
- How the effectiveness of your project is assessed with measurable outcomes
- The methods that will be used to collect and maintain data for the Annual STOP Report

Please note that the [Annual STOP Reporting Form](#) has been recently been modified. Applicants can also view the [Subgrantee Reporting Form Instructions](#) at vawamei.org

Required Attachments

Signed VAWA Certification

List of STOP Team members for current STOP Grant Recipients

MOU for STOP Collaborative Team if not currently a STOP Recipient

Support Letters for Training

MOU with Faith-based, Community Based, Organization Serving and Underserved Population, and/ or Culturally Specific Organization

Job Descriptions for STOP funded positions

Pass-Through Contract

Existing DV, SA and Stalking Protocols if currently a STOP Recipient

Meeting minutes for current STOP Grant Recipients

Signature Page

The executed signature page must be signed and uploaded to the Main Summary section of your application following the [Signature Page Instructions](#) available on the PCCCD Site.

Reminders

- Give yourself enough time
- If you have not completed a SAM registration, you need to allow a week or two to get these things in place.
- If your agency isn't registered in eGrants, or you are not registered as a user in eGrants, give yourself a day or two to get that set up

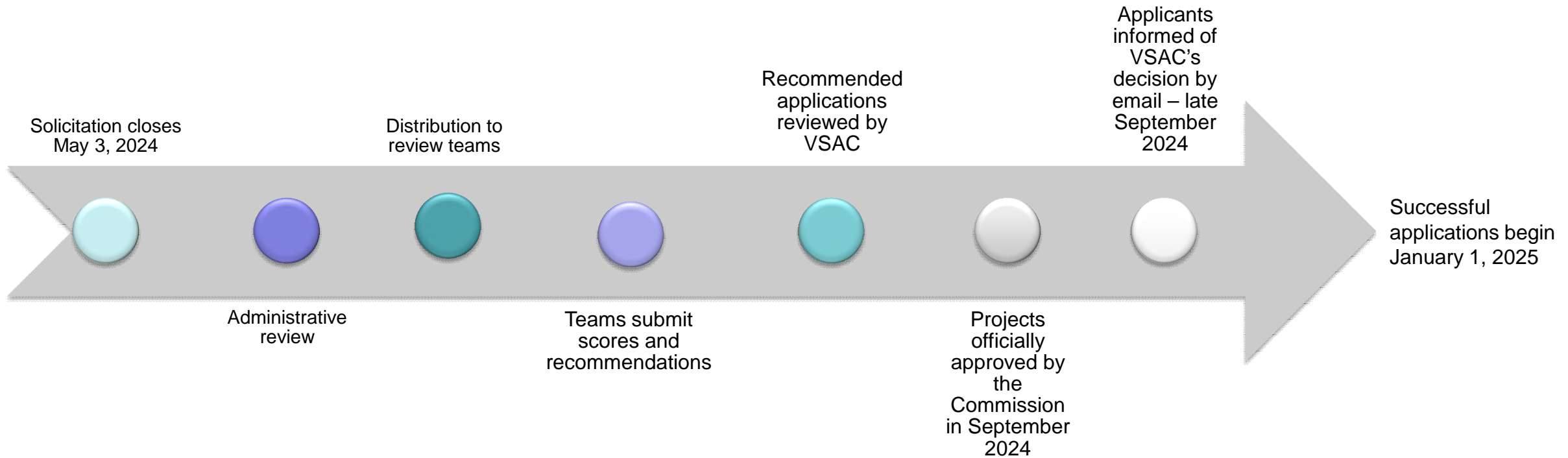
Do not use eGrants under another registered user's log in and password

- Allow enough time to obtain signatures on necessary grant forms, MOUs, and certification forms.
- Applications must be submitted in eGrants no later than **Friday, May 3, 2024, by 11:59 PM.**

Helpful Tips

- Be concise and focused.
- Ensure goals and objectives are measurable, achievable, and acceptable to all partners.
- Assume that the application reviewers know nothing about your county, the current scope of your work with victims, or why your proposed project is necessary.
- Have someone else review your application, preferably someone who knows nothing about it – that person can identify areas of weakness, inconsistency, gaps or mistakes.
- It is recommended that you write narratives in Word first to avoid losing material due to timeouts in eGrants.

What happens next?



▶ Process for asking questions about the solicitation

PCCD staff are not able to respond directly to questions about *competitive* solicitations.

If you have a question, use the resource account established for the 2025-2027 STOP Competitive Solicitation:

RA-OVSSTOPGRANTS@pa.gov

Answers for all questions will be posted on the PCCD Website at this [link](#).

▶ Parting Thoughts

- This presentation gave you an overview of the 2025-2027 STOP Competitive Solicitation.
- **It is not a substitute for reading through the details of the solicitation.**
- In order to successfully complete the application, you'll need to read and reference the [Solicitation](#) and STOP Implementation Plan.