

STOP VAW FORMULA GRANT USE OF FUNDS

Federal Allocation Requirements

Connecticut is eligible to receive \$1.7 million FFY2012 and \$1.7 million (est.) FFY2013 in federal STOP funds. This is a 25% state matching grant; OPM provides the “match” from a dedicated state fund account and sub-grants/contracts the federal and match funds to non-profit providers, state agencies and local governments.

According to the federal program regulations, the funds must be allocated as follows:

- At least **30 percent** must be allocated for nonprofit, **Nongovernmental Victim Services**, of which at least **10 percent** is to be distributed to culturally specific community-based organizations;
- At least **five percent** must be allocated for **Court** related functions;
- At least **25 percent** must be allocated for **Law Enforcement** related functions;
- At least **25 percent** must be allocated for **Prosecution** related functions.
- **15%** is for SAA’s “**discretionary**” allocation to above categories.
- **10%** is for the State Administrative Agency’s “admin” costs

Use of Funds

Funds must be used for responding to domestic violence, sexual violence, dating violence and stalking. The scope of the STOP Program is defined by fourteen statutory purpose areas and program activities; full detailed descriptions are at <http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/docs/fy2013-stop-solicitation.pdf>

Summary of Allowable Activities:

- Develop or expand victim services
- Develop or coordinate multi-disciplinary community-based initiatives
- Train criminal justice professionals
- Develop or expand specialized courts, police teams, prosecution units or victim service programs
- Develop and implement more effective policies, procedures and protocols
- Develop or expand information technology, data collection systems and communication systems

Non-Allowable Use:

Federal regulations *prohibit using STOP funds for primary prevention* activities such as school-based dating-violence prevention curriculum, cyber-abuse and bullying *prevention* programs.

There are many “**non-allowable**” uses including: lobbying, construction, fundraising, research, real property purchase, couples counseling, anger management, legal representation in civil and criminal matters, such as family law cases (divorce, custody, visitation and child support), housing cases, child welfare, and consumer law cases; restrictive conditions on victims, sharing confidential information without victims consent, penalizing victim for not testifying against offender and policies that hold victims accountable for offender’s behavior.

Federal Priority Area

According to USDOJ: “States and Territories should seek to carry out these strategies by forging lasting partnerships between the victim advocacy organizations and the criminal justice system and by encouraging communities to look beyond traditional resources. States and Territories should also look to new partners to respond more vigorously to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking crimes, such as faith-based and community organizations.”

Use of Funds

- ◆ Victim Advocacy and Support
- ◆ Violence Intervention
- ◆ Community Collaboration
- ◆ Police Response
- ◆ Apprehension
- ◆ Investigation
- ◆ Prosecution
- ◆ Adjudication
- ◆ Sanctions
- ◆ Supervision and Oversight
- ◆ Inter-agency Protocols
- ◆ Training
- ◆ Capacity Building
- ◆ Technology
- ◆ Technical Assistance