

Fund for Veterans' Assistance
2017-18 General Assistance, Veterans Mental Health, Housing 4 Texas Heroes, and Veterans Treatment Court Grants
Addendum V – Questions Received as of October 13, 2016

	Question Received	Answer
1	<p>We are needing some guidance to check the correct box in the “Amount Requested” portion of Part I of the 2017-2018 Veterans Mental Health Grant. The tentative funding amount we are needing to fund this project is between the \$50,000 and the \$75,000. The real cost is way conservative of the \$75,000 and quite more than the \$50,000. We were wondering if the instructions stating that we are” encouraged” to ask for a specific amount listed meant that we could ask for an amount in-between amounts listed with blocks to the left of them. Could we, for example, place an X in the \$75,000 box and type in the lower amount we needed on that line to the right of the &75,000 figure?</p>	<p>Requested funding amounts must be selected from the options listed in the application. No changes and/or suggested amounts will be accepted. Please check one box for the amount requested, which best describes the requested amounts necessary and reasonable to support the proposed project. The total grant amount requested must equal the amount requested in the total budget.</p>
2	<p>1) May home modification funds be used for homes that veterans are living in if they are rental properties? If so, what agreements have to be made between our organization and the landlord before home modifications can be made to the rental properties.</p> <p>2) May home modification funds be used for needed travel by program staff to homes where work is being done? If so, what is the allowable mileage rate, i.e., \$0.54 per mile?</p>	<p>1. The H4TXH home modification component generally applies to homeowner primary residences. Please refer to page 4, of Housing 4 Texas Heroes Grants 2017-2018 Request for Applications.</p> <p>2. Employees’ travel associated with the proposed project is allowable under the grant. This includes travel to and from conferences, training, and travel to provide client services or to work locations. Travel does not include international travel. Travel will follow all policies and procedures for travel established by the organization. All travel costs must be in compliance with 2 CFR Part 200, <i>Uniform</i></p>

Fund for Veterans' Assistance
2017-18 General Assistance, Veterans Mental Health, Housing 4 Texas Heroes, and Veterans Treatment Court Grants
Addendum V – Questions Received as of October 13, 2016

	<p>3) May home modification funds be used for cell phones for program staff?</p> <p>4) If the number of projected home modifications exceed or do not meet the estimated number of home modifications, i.e., 20 bathroom modifications are estimated; however, we need to do 30 bathroom modifications is that allowable and if so, what do we have to do to get the approval to do more bathroom modifications than were originally projected in our proposal?</p>	<p><i>Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards.</i></p> <p>The grant applicant must describe each travel item included in the table including, but not limited to what the travel is for, mileage rates, meal rates per day, conference registration fees, and why the travel is necessary to accomplish the Proposed Project. <u>Narrative must also include a calculation to demonstrate how the cost was determined.</u> Please refer to page 17, of Housing 4 Texas Heroes Grants 2017-2018 Request for Applications.</p> <p>3. Employees' cell phone expenses are allowable under the grant as "Other Direct Costs" budget category. Budget line items must be directly related to day-to-day operation of the proposed grant project. Direct costs that appear indirect in nature need to be fully explained, supported, be reasonable and treated in a consistent manner across your organization. The FVA may ask the applicant to re-classify costs as indirect if the support provided does not meet the above criterion.</p> <p>4. Yes. Changes to the approved activities or project scope must be submitted as budget revisions and/or budget amendment.</p>
--	---	--

Fund for Veterans' Assistance

2017-18 General Assistance, Veterans Mental Health, Housing 4 Texas Heroes, and Veterans Treatment Court Grants

Addendum V – Questions Received as of October 13, 2016

<p>3</p>	<p>1. On the 2017-2018 RFA for the General Assistance Grant under Financial assistance, pg. 12, it states, "One-time assistance payments shall not cover more than six months." Does this mean that if a Veteran is up to 6 months behind on his rent or utilities, we can pay that once? Or, can we pay up to 6 months of his/her rent or utility bill, which would mean we can make future payments? This seems to be a little unclear to me as most landlord's/utility companies will not let anyone go 6 months in arrears. They usually disconnect/evict way before then.</p> <p>2. Also, on the Housing for TX Heroes 2017-2018 RFA, pg. 13, one choice has to be made among the Grant Project Services category. Does this mean we can only offer one category of services? Can we combine for example Home Modification Assistance, and Veteran Homeless Prevention Programs.</p>	<p>1. Yes. Grantee may pay for a beneficiary/veteran rent or utilities up to 6 months including arrears on the one-time financial assistance for the General Assistance Grant. Grantee may also request short term and emergency financial assistance for beneficiary up to six months. Financial assistance payments should only be made monthly (not future payments) if the organization verifies that the Beneficiary is the named person on the utility, rent agreement, mortgage, or other bill presented. Financial assistance payments are not to be made to the Beneficiary, but to the vendor.</p> <p>2. Per the Housing 4 TX Heroes 2017-2017 RFA on page 13, please check one box that best describes the nature of the proposed project service category. Projects are not limited to only services in one service category. All services offered should be thoroughly described, supported by a demonstrated need and covered in the budget.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>I have a question on the RFA. I do not have an answer because we are still currently working on this. What should I put in the table that include final performance percentages for both Expenditure and Performance in the appropriate column? This section is on page 14 of 22 on the RFA. Please let me know.</p>	<p>In the <u>Previous FVA Grant Awards table</u>, "List any previous grants your organization was awarded from the FVA", you may enter N/A or include the current performance percentages for both Expenditure and Performance in the appropriate column.</p>

Fund for Veterans' Assistance

2017-18 General Assistance, Veterans Mental Health, Housing 4 Texas Heroes, and Veterans Treatment Court Grants

Addendum V – Questions Received as of October 13, 2016

<p>5</p>	<p>1. If awarded both the General Assistance Grant and the Housing 4 Texas Heroes Grant, can you use them both to assist a veteran. For example: You have veteran who has been ill or lost a job and we assist him the general assistance Grant to pay past due and current rent. Can we then assist him with long term rental assistance from Housing 4 TX Heroes to assist him during a period that is established in our grant possibly up to 6 months.</p> <p>2. Housing for TX Heroes Home Modification Assistance, is it subject to the requirements of Davis Bacon for projects over the \$2,000 threshold?</p>	<p>1. Yes, a veteran may be provided assistance under both grants, as long as the separation of payments are clearly documented, and fully supported with adequate payment documentation.</p> <p>2. No, FVA Housing for Texas Heroes grants are not subject to The Davis-Bacon Act compliance requirements. The Davis-Bacon Act (DBA) applies to federal government contracts. In general, the DBA, as amended, requires that each contract over \$2,000 to which the United States or the District of Columbia is a party for the construction, alteration, and/or repair (including painting or decorating) of public buildings or public works shall contain a clause setting forth the minimum wages to be paid to various classifications of laborers and mechanics employed under the contract.</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>In the 2017-2018 General Assistance Grant, under Previous TVA Grant Awards</p> <p>1. 2015 General Assistance Grant -- If we claimed no expenses for Grant Contract FVA-15A XXX in 2015 and we spent all the grant funds, the Final Exp % would be 0 and the Final Perf % would be 100%, correct?</p> <p>2. In Regards to FVA General Assistance-16B, the grant began on 7/1/16 and will end 6/30/17 and since there is no final</p>	<p>1. The numbers are available on the front page of the grantee's final Performance and Expenditure report as "Percent Grant Funds Expended" and "Percent Grant Performance Achieved." For your example, if you spent all the grant funds the Percent Grant Funds Expended would be 100%. Percent Grant Performance Achieved is calculated based on the number of projected clients versus actual clients served and is not related to funding.</p> <p>2. In the <u>Previous FVA Grant Awards table</u>, "List any previous grants your organization was awarded from the FVA", you may enter N/A or include the current</p>

Fund for Veterans' Assistance
2017-18 General Assistance, Veterans Mental Health, Housing 4 Texas Heroes, and Veterans Treatment Court Grants
Addendum V – Questions Received as of October 13, 2016

	<p>expense or performance yet, the number would be 0, correct? Or am I misinterpreting the question?</p>	<p>performance percentages for both Expenditure and Performance in the appropriate column.</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>1. I am preparing a grant application for the veteran's treatment court. I wanted to know do we need to list every counselor that will be providing services to the veteran's court? We have a provider and they have seven counselors and I wanted to make sure I was to list everyone and not just the principal owner?</p> <p>2. Also, are points counted off if I align the text of answers? I read that the application has specific details as to the font and margins but I wanted to make sure if we aligned our text it wouldn't get counted against us?</p>	<p>1. For each employee directly associated with the Proposed Project, enter the position title, employee's name, the percent of time to be allocated to this Project, and their annual salary. If the employee is a contract employee, list that position under Table F. Client Services. Describe the roles and responsibilities of each position and how each of those roles is necessary to accomplishing the Proposed Project as instructed. Narrative must also include a calculation to demonstrate how the cost was determined.</p> <p>2. No points are deducted for formatting of text responses.</p>

Fund for Veterans' Assistance
2017-18 General Assistance, Veterans Mental Health, Housing 4 Texas Heroes, and Veterans Treatment Court Grants
Addendum V – Questions Received as of October 13, 2016

<p>8</p>	<p>Question: For the amount of funding requesting, there is not a choice for our amount we are asking. It is not an even number and we are not sure what to pick for our application. Does it have to be one of the amounts given on the application?</p>	<p>Requested funding amounts must be selected from the options listed in the application. No changes and/or suggested amounts will be accepted. Please check one box for the amount requested, which best describes the requested amounts necessary and reasonable to support the proposed project. The total grant amount requested must equal the amount requested in the total budget.</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>1. I am seeking an answer to a question for the application process for the 2017-2018 Veterans Treatment Court Grant. The RFA Section IV Program Guidelines, H. Funding Amounts reports, "Eligible applicants are <i>encouraged</i> to request a specific funding amount from the options below." If we intend to apply for an amount not listed, for example \$375,000, should we check the box for \$400,000? Or, should we increase the budget to \$400,000?</p> <p>2. Also, we are not able to find where on the website questions sent to this email are posted for the public to read. Can you please provide us the appropriate website, perhaps someone has already asked this question</p>	<p>1. Requested funding amounts must be selected from the options listed in the application. No changes and/or suggested amounts will be accepted. Please check one box for the amount requested, which best describes the requested amounts necessary and reasonable to support the proposed project. The total grant amount requested must equal the amount requested in the total budget.</p> <p>2. Questions submitted in response to the 2017-2018 RFA are posted weekly on the TVC website (www.tvc.texas.gov), under the Fund for Veterans' Assistance tab; Apply For A Grant section. Applicants may click on a grant category, and find the weekly submitted questions, and their responses. If you are reading this, congratulations, you found the answers.</p>

Fund for Veterans' Assistance

2017-18 General Assistance, Veterans Mental Health, Housing 4 Texas Heroes, and Veterans Treatment Court Grants

Addendum V – Questions Received as of October 13, 2016

<p>10</p>	<p>Do you have to be registered as a 501(3)c or is registration as a Texas Non-profit LLC sufficient?</p>	<p>The following entities may apply for an FVA grant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Units of local government;• IRS Code 501(c)(19) posts or organizations of past or present members of the Armed Forces;• IRS Code 501(c)(3) private nonprofit organizations authorized to do business in Texas;• Texas chapters of IRS Code 501(c)(4) Veterans service organizations; or• Nonprofit organizations authorized to do business in Texas with experience providing services to Veterans.
------------------	---	---