2020-2021 Fund for Veterans’ Assistance Grants

There will be 4 Requests for Application (RFAs) published for 2020-2021 grants:

- General Assistance (GA)*
- Housing 4 Texas Heroes (H4TXH)*
- Veterans Mental Health (VMH)*
- Veterans Treatment Courts (VTC)

*Veterans County Service Officer Funding Available for 2020-2021

5% of every year’s funding is set-aside for GA, H4TXH, and VMH grant projects with Veteran County Service Officer listed as the Project Coordinator.
Purpose

• General Assistance Grants address the needs of Texas Veterans and their families.
• Housing 4 Texas Heroes Grants keep Texas Veterans and their families in their homes, support the families of veterans at medical facilities, and re-home the homeless.
• Veterans Mental Health Grants support the mental health needs of Texas Veterans and their families.
• Veterans Treatment Court Grants fund Veterans Treatment Courts established under Texas Government Code §524.001-.006.

Who can Apply: Eligible Applicants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Program Name</th>
<th>Units of Local Government</th>
<th>501(c)3 Nonprofits</th>
<th>501(c)4 Veterans Service Organizations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Assistance</td>
<td>Eligible</td>
<td>Eligible</td>
<td>Eligible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing 4 Texas Heroes</td>
<td>Eligible</td>
<td>Eligible</td>
<td>Eligible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans Mental Health</td>
<td>Eligible</td>
<td>Eligible</td>
<td>Eligible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans Treatment Courts</td>
<td>Eligible</td>
<td>Not Eligible</td>
<td>Not Eligible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans County Service Officers</td>
<td>County Governments Only</td>
<td>Not Eligible</td>
<td>Not Eligible</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

https://TVC.Texas.gov/grants/apply/#eligible

How To Read The Request For Applications
### Service Categories (Priorities in bold)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Subcategories</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| General Assistance                                                      | • Financial Assistance  
• Supportive Services  
• Pro Bono Legal Services  
• Employment  
• Family Services  
• Federal  
• Transportation                                                          |
| Housing 4 Texas Heroes                                                  | • Home Modification Assistance  
• Assistance to families of veterans at Texas medical facilities  
• Homeless Veterans Support  
• Veteran Homelessness Prevention                                           |
| Veterans Mental Health                                                  | • Clinical Counseling Services  
• Peer-Delivered Services  
• Non-Clinical Support Services                                           |
| Veterans Treatment Courts                                               | • Geographic distribution  
• Diversity of services  
• Court must be established under Texas Government Code §124.001-.006      |

### Priorities For VCSO Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Subcategories</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| General Assistance                                                      | • Financial Assistance  
• Supportive Services  
• Pro Bono Legal Services  
• Employment  
• Family Services  
• Federal  
• Transportation                                                          |
| Housing 4 Texas Heroes                                                  | • Home Modification Assistance  
• Assistance to families of veterans at Texas medical facilities  
• Homeless Veterans Support  
• Veteran Homelessness Prevention                                           |
| Veterans Mental Health                                                  | • Clinical Counseling Services  
• Peer-Delivered Services  
• Non-Clinical Support Services                                           |

### Application Review and Award Process

**Ineligible Applications**
- Application not complete
- Minimum Required Financial Documents not provided
- Application Package missing required attachments
- Audit completed in last 2 years has material findings
- Exclusion record on System for Award Management (SAM)
- Application Package is not submitted through TVC GovGrants portal by the deadline
Application Review and Award Process (Continued)

- Applications are scored using Rubric

- FVA Advisory Committee
  - Application Review
  - Application Presentations Meeting
  - Funding Recommendation Meeting

- Texas Veterans Commissioners
  - Award organizations

More info: https://www.tvc.texas.gov/award-process-2020-2021-fva-grants/

Application Package (Supporting Documents)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Documents</th>
<th>Units of Local Government</th>
<th>501(c)(3) nonprofits</th>
<th>501(c)(4) Veterans Service Organizations</th>
<th>501(c)(19) Posts or Organizations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal Participants</td>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Subject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List of governing body</td>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Subject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Liability Insurance</td>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Subject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Required Financial Documents</td>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Subject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRS Tax determination letter</td>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Subject</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2020-2021 Request for Application Webinar

TVC.Texas.gov/texas.gov/grants/

New resources at TVC.texas.gov/grants/

TVC.Texas.gov/grants/apply

The button link to GovGrants will appear on the Apply Home page when the application period opens on August 24, 2019.
2020-2021 Request for Application Webinar

How To Apply For FVA Grants

https://tvcportal.force.com

Open Saturday, August 24, 2019 @ 12:01am

Application Guidance
Project Narrative Form: Beneficiaries

Who will you serve?

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Project Narrative Form: Define Veteran

- If Veterans are selected above, provide a definition for veterans that will be eligible to receive services.

(Maximum allowable characters = 500)

https://www.tvc.texas.gov/grant-application-faq-define-veteran/

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Project Narrative Form: Project Eligibility

- Project Eligibility

1. Certificate of Service, Document
2. Award Certificate
3. Certificate of discharge
4. Certificate of training
5. Certificate of service
6. Certificate of training
7. Certificate of service
8. Certificate of training
9. Certificate of service
10. Certificate of training

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Project Narrative Form: Eligibility Forms

Identify Eligibility Documentation you will use to verify veteran status.
Select the forms your organization will use to verify eligibility for service, for each beneficiary served under the proposed project.

New! Department of Defense Manpower Data Center Certificate
Certificate verifying Active Duty Status from Department of Defense Manpower Data Center (ONLY – currently serving active duty).

Project Narrative: Proposed Project Services

Decide the Proposed Project. Notions should be brief and specific.
Decide which services will be provided (include grant funding).
Be specific about the services you will provide. (Maximum allowable characters = 1500)

Project Narrative Form: What Services?

- Reviewers are looking for clear, concise answers
- Think of this as a short “elevator pitch” for your grant application
- What client services will you provide, to improve the beneficiary’s life?
  - i.e., rent/utility bill assistance
2020-2021 Request for Application Webinar

Project Narrative Form: What Services?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project/Project Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Veteran households will be provided with rental/deposit assistance, utility bill payment/deposit assistance, and document payment assistance to obtain birth certificates or identification necessary to obtain employment and/or housing.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Project Narrative Form: Time/How Long for Services to be Provided?

- How services provided
- How beneficiary requests services
- How long it will take for the beneficiary to receive services

Beneficiaries can contact us via phone, email, or in-person. Our organization will work directly with debtors, landlords, utility and insurance companies, or government service offices. Once the beneficiary eligibility and need is verified, the services are provided within five working days or less.
$ Budget Tab

- Total Budget = Requested Amount
- Use whole dollars
  - Only $5,000.00
  - **$5,000.31**

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Budget: Client Services Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Client Service Type</th>
<th>Estimated Cost</th>
<th>Actual Cost</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Text</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$450</td>
<td>$950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Custom Support</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td>$550</td>
<td>$1150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$2100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Label each type of client service expense individually, and enter your budget for client services subcategories on their own line items.

https://www.tvc.texas.gov/2020-2021-fva-grants-budget-subcategories/

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Budget: Describe Client Services

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Helpful Tips

- Read/Review the Request for Application (RFA) several times as you prepare to submit your application
- Answer all questions or input N/A if the field does not apply to your organization type or project
- Clearly and concisely answer the narrative questions
- Enter whole dollars, not cents in budget tables

Narrative Tips: Clear and concise

Help a Vet will provide forklift and food handler certification, additional vocational certifications, and job readiness supplies to include: briefcases, personal protective equipment (PPE), etc. Too general, not clear, and ambiguous:

- Additional Vocational Certification?
- Etcetera, etc.?
Errors in GovGrants

- Application Error

- System Error

### Timeline For Applications

### Questions About The RFA?

- Staff is not allowed to answer applicant questions on an individual basis during the open application period
- All questions and answers must be posted publicly while TVC actively accepts applications in GovGrants

- Must be submitted in writing to rfaquestions@tvc.texas.gov
- Questions answered Wednesday & Friday on the GovGrants FAQ tab
2020-2021 Request for Application Webinar

Last Day To Submit Questions
Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Application Submission Deadline For All Funding Opportunities
Friday, October 25, 2019
5:00pm Central Time (Austin, Texas)

General RFA Questions
No Project-Specific Questions, Please
HELP FVA IMPROVE APPLICANT & GRANTEE TRAINING

Please Evaluate This Session Online
www.tvc.texas.gov/grants/eval/

Thank You
Please email all questions about 2020-2021 Fund for Veterans' Assistance Requests for Applications to
RFAquestions@tvc.texas.gov by October 16, 2019