



**Texas Veterans Commission
Fund for Veterans' Assistance**

**Request for Applications
2023-2024 FVA Grants:**

*General Assistance
Housing for Texas Heroes
Veterans Mental Health
Veterans Treatment Court
Veteran County Service Offices*

Application Portal Opens: October 5, 2022

Application Deadline: December 5, 2022, 5:00 PM

Fund for Veterans' Assistance website:
<https://www.tvc.texas.gov/grants>

The Texas Veterans Commission (TVC) is firmly committed to the principal of fair and equal employment opportunities and the provision of services without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, physical disability, or genetic information.

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ANNEX A – FVA Grant Program Requirements and Terms & Conditions (2023-2024 Grants)

Request for Applications
Texas Veterans Commission Fund for Veterans' Assistance
2023-24 Grant Period

The Fund for Veterans' Assistance (FVA or "Fund") was created in the 79th Legislature, and codified in the Texas Government Code § 434.017, Fund for Veterans' Assistance and the Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 460, Fund for Veterans' Assistance Program. The Fund is composed of money deposited under Government Code §§ 466.027 and 466.408 for proceeds from a Texas Lottery Commission Veterans' Assistance game, Texas Transportation Code § 502.1746 for donations from vehicle registration and drivers' license renewals, Government Code § 411.1741 for donations from License to Carry renewals, Parks and Wildlife Code §12.07 for donations from hunting and fishing license renewals, gifts and grants contributed to the Fund, and the earnings of the Fund. The Texas Veterans Commission oversees all policies and rules governing the awarding of grants from the FVA.

The Texas Veterans Commission is authorized to use funds appropriated to the FVA to administer the Fund and make reimbursement grants to address the needs of veterans and their families, as determined through veteran needs assessment studies. The veteran needs assessment is required in Texas Government Code § 434.017 and the results are published on the Texas Veteran Commission website. All grant awards will be made through a competitive grant selection process.

I. Purpose

The purpose of this Request for Applications (RFA) is to:

- A. Provide an overview of FVA Grant Programs including detailed descriptions of service categories, service areas, program goals and guidelines.
- B. Solicit grant applications from eligible applicants for the 2023-2024 grant period.
- C. Provide application instructions and specific information on grant eligibility.
- D. Provide information about the FVA grant application and awarding processes.

II. Grant Programs and Goals

A. This RFA announces funding opportunities for four different grant programs including General Assistance Grants, Housing for Texas Heroes Grants, Veterans Mental Health Grants, and Veteran Treatment Courts Grants. Each of the grant programs include service categories that are defined and explained below. Many of the service category descriptions include notes to potential applicants to help understand the purpose, scope and constraints that are related to the service category. Per Texas Administration Code § 460.17, this RFA announces grant funding opportunities for Veteran County Service Officers for General Assistance, Housing for Texas Heroes, and Veterans Mental Health grant programs.

B. The grant programs and opportunities announced in this RFA are reimbursement grants, and grants are awarded based on a competitive application and awarding process. For grant programs that have multiple service categories, applicants select the service category that their grant project fits in and develop their project narratives and budgets to illustrate how they will provide those services for their selected grant program. The information and descriptions for each grant and service category below is provided to enable applicants to be clear, concise, and deliberate in how they develop and present their project proposals and budgets in their applications.

C. TVC Grant Program Goals

1. Provide support, services, and resources to veterans, their families, and surviving spouses where they live to improve their quality of life and strengthen their connections and integration with their communities.

2. Responsively serve eligible beneficiaries to meet acute and chronic needs.

3. Provide grant-funded services and resources that have measurable, positive outcomes.

4. Ensure grant-funded projects are available to veterans, dependents, and surviving spouses across the state.

5. Ensure a diversity of grant-funded services are available within geographic regions.

6. Fund grant projects that support the overall and specific program goals approved by the Commission.

D. The four TVC grant programs include:

1. General Assistance Program. General Assistance (GA) grants include service categories that collectively support veterans, dependents, and surviving spouses who live in Texas.

a) Financial Assistance: Financial assistance that is temporary in nature and is intended to provide limited emergency assistance and financial relief to veterans who can demonstrate financial need, including:

1) Mortgage payments (including escrow) and payments in arrears, not to exceed a 6-month period per beneficiary household. Monthly rent including application fees, deposits, late fees and payments in arrears, not to exceed a 6-month period per beneficiary household.

2) Utility payments for electric, water, gas, garbage, internet, and cell phone service (also includes connection & re-connection fees, late fees, and payments in arrears), not to exceed a 6-month period per beneficiary household.

3) Food voucher services, not to exceed a 6-month period per beneficiary household.

4) Transportation assistance including daily, weekly, monthly bus passes, train or metro rail passes, ride-share & cab fare not to exceed a 3-month period. Transportation assistance for beneficiary vehicles including fuel, repair, insurance, and loan payments not to exceed a 3-month period.

5) Drop-in Child/Adult care services at a licensed day care facility or business.

6) Funeral costs (excluding costs for indigent veteran services, receptions and celebrations of life) up to \$6,000 to assist surviving family members who can demonstrate financial need with paying for cost of veteran funeral and internment services.

7) Assistive technologies to promote independent living for qualified clients including wheelchairs & batteries, walkers, crutches, hospital beds, lift chairs, portable ramps, hearing aids, orthotic inserts & shoes, and eyeglasses. See Financial Assistance Notes below for limitations.

8) Restorative dental-care up to \$2500 per beneficiary, per grant period.

Financial Assistance Notes:

a) Financial assistance payments are not to be made to the Beneficiary, but to the vendor.

b) Medical expenses are not allowed. Medical expenses include physician bills, prescription medications, medical insurance premiums or copays, audiology, vision care, emergency/after-hours clinic costs, lab work, imagery, and prescribed prosthetics.

c) Child support, alimony and other court-ordered settlement payments are not allowed.

d) Beneficiary must be the named person on mortgage, rent, utility, loan, vehicle title, or other bill/invoice presented for financial support.

e) Temporary housing, shelter nights are included in Homeless Veteran Support grants and therefore not allowed in financial assistance.

f) Gift cards, pre-paid service cards, such as gas, groceries, and department store-related cards, cash or cash equivalents are not allowable.

g) Hearing aids and eyeglasses are available only to dependents and surviving spouses

h) Mortgage payments (including escrow) and rent payments not to exceed \$6,000 per veteran household per grant period.

i) Vehicle insurance, and loan payments not to exceed \$3,000 per veteran household per grant period.

j) Overall, vehicle repairs not to exceed \$4,000 per veteran household per grant period. For vehicles valued at \$8,000 or less, repairs not to exceed 50% of vehicle value.

k) Beneficiaries receiving financial assistance should be able to demonstrate their financial need through a monthly income/expense analysis or family budget review performed by the Grantee. The purpose of financial assistance services is to ensure veterans and their families receive the verifiable financial help they need.

b) Supportive Services: This service category is for services identified by beneficiaries or through case management that provide support for veterans and their families to enable stability and promote veteran family integration with the community. This service category is ideal to provide a wide range of services to veterans and qualified beneficiaries who live in underserved rural or highly rural areas where resources are limited. This service category also provides all the resources necessary to prevent veterans (and veteran families) from becoming homeless, especially those who are at risk of becoming homeless. Service areas include:

1) Assistive Technology Services: Products and equipment that increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities of persons with disabilities. Consists of wheelchairs & batteries, walkers, crutches, hospital beds, lift chairs, portable ramps, hearing aids, orthotic inserts & shoes, and eyeglasses. See Supportive Services Notes below for limitations.

2) Meal Delivery Services: Programs that deliver nutritious meals, friendly visits and safety checks that enable Texas veterans and their families to live nourished lives with independence and dignity.

3) Elder Care Services: supports veterans' ability to age in place with dignity, and includes assistive technology, restorative dental care, meal services and meal delivery services, transportation assistance, transitional housing (HUD/VASH), and other qualified resources identified through case management, such as counseling, peer support services, or mental health treatment.

4) Family Support Services: supports veteran families in stabilizing relationships, reducing family stress, and promoting integration with their communities, and includes programs for:

a. Services and support to families with a deployed service member for whom the service member is the primary provider.

b. Post-deployment family reintegration programs.

c. Temporary housing assistance and other resources identified to support families of veterans undergoing long-term treatment at a medical facility in Texas.

d. Workshop programs that provide family financial planning, family (parent-child) communications, anger management and aggression in children, family safety, family values, adolescent & teenage parenting.

e. Dependent activities such as after-school programs, child / adult care, summer camps, pre-school for qualifying dependents based on family income, and programs for qualifying dependents with special needs.

f. Other qualified resources identified through case management including but not limited to emergency financial assistance, transportation programs and services for rural counties (as defined by the Office of Rural Health Policy), employment support, food voucher services, family counseling or peer-delivered support.

Supportive Services Notes:

- a) Financial assistance payments are not to be made to the Beneficiary, but to the vendor.
- b) Medical expenses are not allowed. Medical expenses include physician bills, prescription medications, medical insurance premiums or copays, audiology, vision care, emergency/after-hours clinic costs, lab work, imagery, and prescribed prosthetics.
- c) Child support, alimony and other court-ordered settlement payments are not allowed.
- d) Beneficiary must be the named person on mortgage, rent, utility, loan, or other bill/invoice presented for financial support.
- e) Gift cards, pre-paid service cards, such as gas, groceries, and department store-related cards, cash or cash equivalents are not allowable.
- f) Hearing aids and eyeglasses are available only to dependents and surviving spouses
- g) Mortgage and rent payments not to exceed \$12,000 per veteran household per grant period.
- h) Vehicle insurance, and loan payments not to exceed \$6,000 per veteran household per grant period.
- i) Overall, vehicle repairs not to exceed \$4,000 per veteran household per grant period. For vehicles valued at \$8,000 or less, repairs not to exceed 50% of vehicle value.
- j) Intervention counseling, mental health treatment, or peer support services provided to veterans and their families must be essential to supporting the veteran and/or family and provided by or under the licensure of a licensed mental health professional (LMPH), or a trained/certified peer services provider, applying evidence-based practice(s) (EBP) who has received training in the applied EBP.
- k) Mental health providers leveraging FVA grants must administer Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ) 9 and General Anxiety Disorder (GAD) 7 assessments to all beneficiaries prior to, during, and after treatment. These assessment tools will be the basis for quarterly outcome reports provided to FVA by the grantees.
- l) Applicants applying for Supportive Services grants are encouraged to include at least 75% of the total project budget in client services, to allow budgeting flexibility to cover “qualified resources identified through case management”.
- m) Financial need for Supportive Service beneficiaries: Eligible beneficiaries should not exceed **20% above the annual median household income** for the county in which they reside, per the County Information Program (CIP) published by the Texas Association of Counties, or the Housing and Urban Development’s user guide for median family income (MFI) at <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/dataset/fmr-api.html>.

c) Homeless Veteran Support: Supportive services identified by beneficiaries or through case management to address acute and chronic conditions underlying the veteran's homeless status, and to support veterans who are homeless or have transitioned out of a homeless status. Services include: shelter programs, transitional housing (HUD/VASH), temporary housing, rapid re-housing programs, financial support for rent, utility payments (electric, water, gas, garbage, internet, and cell phone service) & essential needs, social programs, meal services, food & hygiene pantry services, food voucher services, household goods services, employment support, transportation assistance, assistive technology, counseling, peer delivered services, or mental health treatment as identified through case management.

Homeless Veteran Support Notes:

- a) *Financial assistance payments are not to be made to the Beneficiary, but to the vendor.*
- b) *Medical expenses are not allowed. Medical expenses include physician bills, prescription medications, medical insurance premiums or copays, audiology, vision care, emergency/after-hours clinic costs, lab work, imagery, and prescribed prosthetics.*
- c) *Child support, alimony, and other court-ordered settlement payments are not allowed.*
- d) *Beneficiary must be the named person on rent or temporary housing agreement, , utility, loan, or other bill/invoice presented for financial support.*
- e) *Gift cards, pre-paid service cards, such as gas, groceries, and department store-related cards, cash or cash equivalents are not allowable.*
- f) *Intervention counseling, mental health treatment, or peer support services provided to homeless veterans and families must be essential to supporting the veteran and/or family, and provided by or under the licensure of a licensed mental health professional (LMPH), or a trained/certified peer services provider, applying evidence-based practice(s) (EBP) who has received training in the applied EBP.*
- g) *Services provided to clients under this service category must be documented in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) database that covers the county in which the service was provided. This documented service is required for reimbursement. Organizations providing services to homeless veterans and families must have software licenses to access the HMIS databases that cover the counties they serve.*
- h) *Mental health providers leveraging FVA grants must administer PHQ-9 and GAD-7 assessments to all beneficiaries prior to, during, and after treatment. These assessment tools will be the basis for quarterly outcome reports provided to FVA by the grantees.*

d) Employment Support: Resources that support veterans to prepare for, secure, and maintain employment. Specific project and service areas included in this service category are the following:

- 1) Job skills training and education programs not longer than 6 months in duration per beneficiary per grant period.
- 2) Tools and uniforms required to perform the job tasks assigned by the employer.
- 3) Job search services and job placement assistance.
- 4) Other employment-related services.
- 5) Transition Assistance for service members and families entering civilian workforce.

Employment Support Notes:

a) Applicants are to review current programs offered by TVC to ensure proposed projects described in their applications do not duplicate services currently provided by TVC.

b) Excludes tuition, books, or fees for veteran students taking classes with institutions of higher learning.

c) Gift cards, pre-paid service cards, such as gas, groceries, and department store-related cards, cash or cash equivalents are not allowable.

d) Excludes tools and uniform items that are provided by the employer, or not required within the first 90 days of employment.

e) Pro Bono Legal Services: This includes civil legal services provided at no cost to veterans, active-duty members of the United States Armed Forces, and members of the state military forces. This service category does not include criminal defense or Veterans Courts as defined in the Texas Government Code, Chapter 124, or costs associated with legal clinics where no legal consultation or services are provided. Services may be provided in areas of elder law, family law, divorce & custody, business and real estate law, estate planning, notary services, landlord/tenant disputes (including but not limited to eviction and foreclosure proceedings), certain types of tax assistance, consumer financial protection issues, debt collection and bankruptcy.

Pro Bono Legal Services Notes:

a) Services provided to upgrade characterization of service (discharge status) are not allowed unless the discharge is the result of behaviors, decisions, misconduct linked to PTSD or MST incurred while in military service.

b) Services provided to support claims with the Veterans Administration are not allowed – including claims for initial and increased disability compensation award, appeals of disability application denials, and/or compensation benefits for surviving spouses/children of service members and veterans.

c) Services provided to bring civil suit against any government entity (local, state, or federal) are not allowed.

d) Any service where the government is a real or potential adversarial party is not allowed (e.g., debt when the government is the lender, government foreclosures of property, adverse federal or state tax decisions etc.).

f) Referral Services: This category includes those programs that provide information and referral programs.

g) Transportation Programs & Services: This service category is for assisting organizations that provide a transportation service to the veteran beneficiaries in their local area, county or region. Transportation service programs funded by this grant should provide transportation to/from medical, dental, mental health appointments; and transportation in support of basic needs (grocery stores, 24-hour care, community meetings, voting, court appearance, and tax offices). Gift cards, pre-paid service cards, such as gas, groceries, and department store-related cards, cash or cash equivalents are not allowable. Transportation to/from social visits, gatherings or events, political campaigns or public demonstrations are not allowed.

h). Veteran Small Business Support: This service category is for eligible organizations and units of local government that support veterans in stabilizing or growing their 100% veteran-owned business for the purpose of maintaining self-employment. Specific project and service areas included in this service category:

- 1) Entrepreneurship and small-business training programs for veterans not longer than 5 months in duration per beneficiary per grant period. Refer to Annex A, Program Requirements for more information.
- 2) Tools, Equipment, Software, or other related business products for veterans valued below \$2,000.
- 3) Referral to Small Business Financial Lenders; and
- 4) Other small-business related services not considered financial.

Veteran Small Business Support Notes:

- a) Applicants are to review current programs offered by TVC to ensure proposed projects described in their applications do not duplicate services currently provided by TVC.*
- b) Veteran beneficiaries of this grant service must be in business, partnership or incorporated as a 100% veteran-owned business as verified by the Texas Veterans Commission.*
- c) Excludes tuition, books, or fees for veteran students taking classes with institutions of higher learning.*
- d) Gift cards, pre-paid service cards, such as gas, groceries, and department store-related cards, cash or cash equivalents are not allowable.*

2. Housing for Texas Heroes Program. The Housing for Texas Heroes (H4TXH) Grant Program provides home modifications and home repair for veterans and surviving spouses, including:

- a) Home modification projects to improve accessibility that support living in a home based on physical disabilities or handicaps (walkways, ramps, sliding doors, handrails, kitchen, and bathroom modifications)
- b) Home repair (plumbing, electrical, interior walls, flooring, lighting)
- c) Weatherization (sealing of doors & windows, siding, roofing)

Housing for Texas Heroes Notes:

- a) Very Low & Low-Income beneficiaries are **considered the highest priority** for services and wait lists.*
- b) Maximum amount H4TXH funding for home modification assistance per Veteran household is \$20,000, per grant period.*
- c) Veteran and/or family member beneficiaries receiving home modification, home repair, or weatherization assistance are listed as owners of the current property records on file with the County Tax Office and be current on property taxes and any existing mortgage loans or home equity loans prior to receiving assistance.*

d) Projects and services proposed in the application that are not explicitly listed in this RFA or FVA Program Requirements will be considered based on the project justification, description, and benefit to clients.

e) Gift cards, pre-paid service cards, such as gas, groceries, and department store-related cards, cash or cash equivalents are not allowable.

f) Eligible Beneficiaries must:

1) Be considered a Low or Very Low-Income Household (as defined in this RFA), and be listed on file with the county as the current owner(s) of the property, and be current on existing mortgage loans or home equity loans prior to receiving assistance; OR

2) Be a Disabled Veteran as determined by the Veterans Administration and be listed on file with the county as the current owner(s) of the property and be current on property taxes and any existing mortgage loans or home equity loans prior to receiving assistance.

3. Veterans Mental Health Program. The Veterans Mental Health (VMH) Grant Program is comprised of two service categories that collectively provide counseling and treatment to veterans and their families in addressing diagnosed conditions to improve their quality of life, relationships, outlook, and successful integration with their communities.

a) Clinical Counseling Services. Services and treatment that include evidence-based practices (EBP) for diagnosed conditions or co-occurring conditions including but not limited to:

- 1) trauma and stress related disorders.
- 2) anxiety disorders.
- 3) mood disorders.
- 4) suicide ideation and behaviors.
- 5) substance use disorders.
- 6) concerns related to identity.
- 7) adjustment disorders; and
- 8) marriage/family/relationship concerns.

Equine therapies and other non-clinical services cannot be the sole service provided under clinical counseling. They can be added to a clinical counseling treatment plan as a supplemental therapeutic service as long as they are supervised under the licensure of a licensed mental health professional (LMHP).

Clinical Counseling Notes:

a) Prescribed EBPs plans must be relevant to treating the veteran's (dependents', and/or surviving spouse's) diagnosed condition or co-occurring conditions.

b) Some acceptable individual, manualized trauma-focused (or trauma-informed) EBP modalities include: Prolonged Exposure (PE); Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR); Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT); Brief Eclectic Psychotherapy (BEP); Narrative Exposure Therapy (NET); Acceptance and commitment therapy (ACT); Behavioral therapy/behavioral activation (BT/BA); Cognitive Behavioral Therapies (CBT); Interpersonal Therapy (IPT); Mindfulness-based cognitive therapy (MBCT); Problem-solving therapy (PST); Crisis Response Planning; Safety Planning; motivational interviewing; and other EBP relevant to veterans, dependents, and surviving spouses.

c) *Intervention counseling and mental health treatment (including best practices and integrative therapies provided to veterans and families must be essential to supporting the veteran and/or family and provided by or under the licensure of a licensed mental health professional (LMPH) applying evidence-based practice(s) (EBP) who has received training in the applied EBP.*

d) *Grant applicants who will provide clinical counseling or peer delivered services will be required to provide proof of mental health provider licensure and certifications if awarded a grant.*

e) *In the grant application, organizations will include the EBP modalities used by their licensed/trained staff members and indicate the diagnosed condition(s) included in the grant project.*

f) *Client diagnosis, and initial treatment plan development must be performed under the licensure of an LMHP (preferably in person).*

g) *Medical expenses are not allowed. Medical expenses include physician bills, prescription medications, medical insurance premiums or copays, audiology, vision care, emergency/after-hours clinic costs, lab work, imagery, and prescribed prosthetics.*

h) *Retreats, field trips, off-sites, seminars, and/or similar gatherings cannot exceed 25% of the total grant amount requested and are not allowed unless clinical mental health services are provided in conjunction with the event.*

i) *Mental health providers leveraging FVA grants must administer PHQ-9 and GAD-7 assessments to all beneficiaries prior to, during, and after treatment. These assessment tools will be the basis for quarterly outcome reports provided to FVA by the grantees.*

b) Peer Support Services. Services based upon the premise that an individual with a “lived experience,” in this case military service, is uniquely able to contribute to the rehabilitation and recovery of those needing services.

1) Services that are provided to veterans and their families in a non-clinical environment from trained/certified individuals and include but not limited to: operation of Peer Networking centers, support groups, information and referral services, advocacy, technical assistance, life skills training, and other direct services.

2) Peer-support services must be supervised by certified peer specialists, social workers, and/or pastoral counselors. Non-trained/certified mentors and volunteer sponsors with shared experiences can provide services under the supervision of a trained/certified peer services provider.

Peer-Support Services Notes:

a) *Organizations applying for this grant must have at least one staff member who is certified as a peer support/peer services provider. The training certifications (credentials) listed below are acceptable, and applicants should include scanned copies of staff member certifications with their applications.*

1. *Completed Via Hope training and certification per HHSC website within past 3 years and completed military cultural competency (MCC) training ; or*

2. *Completed certification from Texas Certification Board of Addiction Professionals per HHSC website within past 3 years and completed military cultural competency (MCC) training; or*

3. Completed training and certification from any of the TVC Certified Peer Service Coordinators (PSCs) in the Local Mental Health Authority (LMHA) catchment areas within past 2 years; or

4. Credentialed social worker or any licensed mental health provider (LMHP) or counselor with proof of completed military cultural competency (MCC) training; or

5. Credentialed pastoral counselor with proof of completed military cultural competency (MCC) training.

b) TVC's VMHD can provide MCC training free of charge. Contact Dr. Blake Harris at Blake.Harris@tvc.texas.gov for more information or to schedule this training. Additionally, the peer support training and certifications provided by Peer Support Coordinators (PSCs) within Texas' Local Mental Health Authority (LMHA) catchment areas are provided at no cost to veterans desiring to become peer support specialists. For more information, visit [Veterans Mental Health Department \(milvetpeer.net\)](http://VeteransMentalHealthDepartment(milvetpeer.net))

c) Medical expenses are not allowed. Medical expenses include physician bills, prescription medications, medical insurance premiums or copays, audiology, vision care, emergency/after-hours clinic costs, lab work, imagery, and prescribed prosthetics.

d) Retreats, field trips, off-sites, seminars, and/or similar gatherings cannot exceed 25% of the total grant amount requested and are not allowed unless clinical mental health services are provided in conjunction with the event.

Fe) Peer delivered service providers leveraging FVA grants must administer the Veteran's Administration's Whole Health personal health inventory to all beneficiaries prior to, during, and after the peer delivered service activities. This assessment tool will be the basis for quarterly outcome reports provided to FVA by the grantees. Visit this website to view or download the Veteran Administration's personal health inventory:

https://www.va.gov/wholehealth/docs/PHI_Jan2022_Final_508.pdf

4. Veterans Treatment Court Program. The Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) Grant Program supports eligible units of local government in providing services through Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) programs established under Texas Government Code §124.001-.006. Grant funding is intended to support rehabilitation for justice involved veterans to best prepare them for reintegration with their communities. Grant funding for Veteran Treatment Courts can be applied to reimburse the following VTC program expenses:

a) Substance abuse detection including, but not limited to: SCRAM, Breathalyzer, Urine/Blood tests, skin patches, ankle detection devices.

b) Probation Officers.

c) Bailiff (when providing services for the VTC).

d) Program/Court Coordinator.

e) Licensed Mental Health providers and/or counselors applying evidenced-based practices.

f) Life Skills and Community Integration training programs.

g) Financial Assistance for mortgage, rent, and utilities (electric, water, gas, garbage, internet, and cell phone service) for veterans while participating in the program (graduates of VTC programs serving extended probation periods not eligible).

- h) Transportation assistance (bus passes, ride-share & cab fare) while participating in the program.
- i) Substance Abuse Treatment (inpatient and outpatient).
- j) BIP/DV/Anger Management programs; and
- k) other expenses that provide or support client services

Notes for Veteran Treatment Court:

a) The grant will **fund up to 4 court program members** to attend the annual NADCP conference for staff training on best practices, and 4 court program members to attend the annual TASC conference.

b) VTC applicants must outline how they apply the best practices for VTC programs, especially the non-adversarial approach in their applications.

c) In districts where the VTC and County Supervision and Corrections Department (CSCD) work together to support the VTC program(s), funding to support the CSCD's contributions to the VTC program can be included in the VTC grant application and indicated as such. Only one grant shall be awarded to support veterans in a single VTC program.

d) Because mental health services are essential to the success of Veteran Treatment Courts, and allowable as services provided to clients in the programs, VTCs are not allowed to request concurrent VTC and VMH grants that would serve to support the same clients.

e) VTC Judges and/or VTC coordinators must maintain oversight of program expenditures that are reimbursed by the TVC grant.

f) Marketing and outreach costs for the VTC program, or for any individual associated with administration of the grant project are not allowable.

g) Supplanting of salaries or compensation for part-time or full-time county employees is not allowable.

h) Medical expenses are not allowed. Medical expenses include physician bills, prescription medications, medical insurance premiums or copays, audiology, vision care, emergency/after-hours clinic costs, lab work, imagery, and prescribed prosthetics.

i) Mental health providers leveraging FVA grants must administer PHQ-9 and GAD-7 assessments to all beneficiaries prior to, during, and after treatment. These assessment tools will be the basis for quarterly outcome reports provided to FVA by the grantees.

E. Veteran County Service Officer (VCSO) Funding Opportunity. The VCSO funding opportunity includes all the service categories listed in the General Assistance Grant Program, Housing for Texas Heroes Grant Program, and Veterans Mental Health Grant Program. Veteran County Service Officers are eligible to submit one application for any of the service categories and must serve as the project coordinator for the services if awarded a grant. *The VCSO applicants shall consider the description and notes listed for each grant category while developing their grant application.*

Notes for Veteran County Service Office:

a) Supplanting of salaries or compensation for part-time or full-time county employees is not allowable.

b) FVA grant funding cannot be used to support disability claims processing, filing, appeals processing, or any other activity associated with claims such as 2nd opinions. Claims services and support are provided by a separate TVC Department.

c) Medical expenses are not allowed. Medical expenses include physician bills, prescription medications, medical insurance premiums or copays, audiology, vision care, emergency/after-hours clinic costs, lab work, imagery, and prescribed prosthetics.

III. FVA Grant Program Guidelines

A. Grant Management Standards. All grants awarded by the Texas Veterans Commission must follow the applicable Texas Grant Management Standards (TxGMS) which can be found at <https://comptroller.texas.gov/purchasing/grant-management> and the applicable federal grant guidelines published by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The OMB federal guidelines, 2 CFR Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, can be found at: https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title02/2cfr200_main_02.tpl. Grant applicants are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the 2 CFR 200 while completing their applications. In the event of a conflict between TxGMS and applicable federal law, the provisions of federal law apply.

B. Texas Administrative Code. All applicants should review and be familiar with the TVC administrative rules governing the Fund for Veterans' Assistance Program. These rules are published in 40 Texas Administrative Code, Part 15, Chapter 460, found at: [http://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac\\$ext.ViewTAC?tac_view=4&ti=40&pt=15&ch=460](http://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.ViewTAC?tac_view=4&ti=40&pt=15&ch=460)

C. Competitive Grant. FVA grants are awarded through a competitive selection process that includes eligibility screening, risk assessment, evaluation, and review, and receiving a recommendation from the FVA Advisory Committee. The Commission makes the final determination for awarding grants and considers all attributes of the applications, specifically how they will serve veteran needs, prior to awarding. Grant funding should not be requested with the anticipation or expectation of additional or subsequent awards of FVA funding. See Texas Administrative Code, Part 15, Chapter 460 for more information.

D. Reimbursement Grant. FVA grants are awarded on a cost reimbursement basis. Under the cost reimbursement method of funding, a Grantee is required to finance its operations with its own working capital with grant payments made to reimburse the Grantee for actual cash disbursements supported by adequate documentation as prescribed by the FVA. Detailed reporting to include adequate expenditure support documentation is required for all cost reimbursement requests. If awarded, grantees are encouraged to have cash or cash equivalents on hand equaling two-months of grant project operating expenses at the beginning of the grant period. For new recipients of FVA grants, an initial payment of up to 10% of the total amount of the grant can be made for start-up costs. The subsequent expenses will be charged against the initial payment until a zero balance is reached to be followed by expenses that will be reimbursed up to the total amount of the grant.

E. Awarded Grant Documents. Upon Commission approval of the grant awards, the parties will be bound by the following: 1) the terms and requirements within this RFA document; 2) FVA Grant Program Requirements and Terms & Conditions; 3) the approved Grant Application and all items submitted by the grant applicant to the Commission in response to this RFA; and 4) the Notice of Grant Award (NOGA).

F. Eligibility of Beneficiaries. The Grantee must ensure that clients served using FVA grant funds are eligible to receive services prior to requesting reimbursement for services provided to these clients. Eligibility documentation must be maintained by the Grantee in the clients' records.

G. Eligibility Documents. The grantee will use the following documents to determine that beneficiaries are eligible to receive services.

Veteran One Document Required	Dependent Two Documents Required	Surviving Spouse Two Documents Required
Uniform Services Identification Card	Uniform Services Identification Card	Uniform Services Identification Card
Certification of Military Service with a valid Texas Driver's License, ID, or Voter's ID	Marriage Certificate	Marriage Certificate
DD-214 (Member Copy 4 with characterization of discharge) with a valid Texas Driver's License, ID, or Voter's ID	Birth Certificate	Death Certificate
NGB-22 with a valid Texas Driver's License, ID, or Voter's ID	Adoption Certificate	
NA Form 13038 with a valid Texas Driver's License, ID, or Voter's ID	AND one of the forms listed in veteran column confirming veteran status	AND one of the forms listed in veteran column confirming veteran status
Veteran Health Identification Card issued by the Dept of Veterans Affairs		
Veteran ID Card issued by the Dept of Veterans Affairs		
Department of Veterans Affairs Summary Letter with Character of Service listed with a valid Texas Driver's License, ID, or Voter's ID		
State of Texas Issued Driver License with Veteran designation		
Department of Veterans Affairs eBenefits Summary Letter with Character of Service listed with a valid Texas Driver's License, ID, or Voter's ID		
Certificate verifying Active-Duty Status from Department of Defense Manpower Data Center with a valid Texas Driver's License, ID, or Voter's ID		

H. Document Retention. The grantee must retain all records pertaining to the grant per TxGMS guidance (3 years) or by the origination’s policy requirements, whichever is longer. All records will always be kept in a secure location, either in a locked file cabinet or secure electronic means.

I. Grant Funding Period. All funding awarded under this grant must be expended within the grant funding period of July 1st to June 30th. All costs associated with the preparation and submission of an Application for this RFA is the responsibility of Applicant. These costs shall not be chargeable to TVC by any awarded or non-awarded Applicant. **No pre-award spending (before July 1st) will be allowed.**

J. Additional Funding. There should be no expectation of additional or continued grant funding on the part of the Grantee. Any additional funding or future funding will require an accepted TVC offer of grant renewal, or submission of a Grant Application during a subsequent Request for Applications. An amendment extending the Grant Period by up to 6 months may be considered by the FVA.

K. Grant Renewal Eligibility. The Commission may, in its sole discretion, exercise the option to renew the grant for one (1) additional one (1) year period. To be considered for renewal, grantees are expected to:

1. Meet 60% of annual performance and funding expenditures by the end of February, which is the eighth (8th) month of the grant period (July 1st – February 28th).
2. Have no unresolved compliance findings.
3. FVA will notify the Commission during the 3rd Quarter Regular Commission meeting of all grantees who have met the criteria listed above for renewal. Pending the Commission’s approval to exercise the renewal option, FVA will provide notice and instructions to the grantee on the renewal process, including a signed NOGA from the TVC Executive Director. Grants awarded for the 2022-23 grant period and renewed for the 2023-24 grant period, must be able to modify their grant projects to fit within the program and service categories outlined in this 2023-24 RFA.

L. Grant Reporting Requirements

1. Monthly Progress and Expenditure Report. Grantee shall provide to FVA twelve (12) monthly progress and expenditure reports in a format prescribed by the FVA inside the electronic grant management system (EGMS) of record.

2. Quarterly Outcome Report. Grantee shall provide to FVA four (4) quarterly grant outcome reports in a format prescribed by the FVA.

3. Closeout. Grantees will acknowledge that all grant-related expenses have been reported and reimbursements received by TVC not later than sixty (60) days after the end of the grant period. Closeout actions occur inside the electronic grant management system (EGMS) of record.

M. Grant Amendments. Any changes, additions, or deletions to the NOGA or Approved Application must be executed through a grant amendment. A Grantee may request an amendment as outlined in the FVA Program Requirements. Amendments may modify the approved budget, grant period, or scope of the Grant Project as described in the Approved Application. Each amendment request will be considered on a case-by-case basis. A Grantee may have no more than three (3) amendments during a grant

period. Certain conditions apply. Refer to Annex A - FVA Program Requirements and Terms & Conditions for more information.

N. Texas Veterans Commission Recognition. Awarded Applicant must include the following information on the Awarded Applicant website and on all Grant-Funded project-related materials, brochures, flyers, and forms:

1. Texas Veterans Commission website URL.
2. Fund for Veterans' Assistance logo.
3. The following statement:

“This program is supported by a grant from the Texas Veterans Commission Fund for Veterans’ Assistance. The Fund for Veterans’ Assistance provides grants to organizations serving veterans and their families. For more information, visit www.TVC.Texas.gov”

4. Awardees/Grantees must mention TVC in all TV and radio announcements and interviews dealing with FVA grant projects.

O. Prohibited Uses of FVA Grant Funds

1. Supplanting of Funds. A grant made to an organization or unit of local government is intended to provide services and/or assist veterans and their families through the existing structure of the organization. It is not the intent of this grant to supplant existing funds, but to supplement existing funding.

2. Duplication of Services. Grant funds are not to be used to conduct activities or to provide services that are the same as those currently provided by the Texas Veterans Commission. **However, grant funds may be used to conduct activities or provide services that complement those provided by the Texas Veterans Commission.** Services provided by the Texas Veterans Commission include Claims Representation and Counseling, Education, Employment, Women Veterans, Veterans Mental Health, Healthcare Advocacy, and Veteran Entrepreneur Programs. More information about the programs can be found on the website, <http://www.tvc.texas.gov>.

3. Duplication of Contracted Services. Applicant organizations with contracts or agreements with the Texas Veterans Commission may be ineligible for Fund for Veterans’ Assistance grant funding requested for Proposed Projects involving the same or similar services as those funded under the contract. Applicants are responsible for ensuring their submitted application discloses any such contract. The Proposed Project must be clearly and sufficiently differentiated in the application from any contracted services.

4. Sub-Grants. Sub-Granting is an award made by a Grantee to another organization or agency using FVA grant funds. This is prohibited under Texas Administrative Code, Title 40, Part 15, Section 460.10(2).

5. Equipment. FVA grant funds may not be used to purchase equipment. Equipment means tangible property (including information technology systems) having a useful life of more than one year and a per-unit acquisition cost which equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization threshold established by the grantee for financial statement purposes or \$2,000.

6. Capital Expenditures. Except for projects approved in the Housing for Texas Heroes grant program, FVA grant funds may not be used for capital expenses. Capital expenditures means expenditures to acquire capital assets (such as land, additional buildings and/or structures, vehicles, trailers, livestock, and service animals), or expenditures to make additions, improvements, modifications, replacements, rearrangements, reinstallations, renovations, or alterations to capital assets that materially increase their value or useful life.

7. Vehicle purchase and capital leases are prohibited. “Use” leases or “operational” leases are allowable only with prior approval.

P. Prohibited Costs for FVA Grant Funds:

1. Expenses that are not listed in the project budget, implied through the project budget narrative, and do not support approved grant project objectives, are prohibited without prior approval.

2. Client services for employees (or contractors), when the employees’ salaries (or contracted fees) are paid in full or in part by the same TVC grantee organization providing the services, are prohibited without prior approval.

3. Cash or Cash Equivalents – per Texas Administrative Code, Title 40, Part 15, Section 460.10(3) distribution of cash or a cash equivalent to veterans and/or their families is prohibited. Cash equivalents include gift cards and gas cards.

4. Scholarships – per Texas Administrative Code, Title 40, Part 15, Section 460.10(5) scholarships for education are prohibited.

5. Preparation of Grant Application costs – costs associated with preparing and/or submission of an application are the responsibility of the Applicant.

6. “Honoraria” – this is not an allowable cost. The term “fee” should be used in lieu of honorarium in accounting records and consulting agreements.

7. Food – FVA reserves the right to restrict a Grantee from expending any funds on food costs or to disallow food costs. FVA will determine if food costs have both a programmatic purpose and are reasonable and necessary for the successful performance of the Proposed Project.

8. Construction – per Texas Administrative Code, Title 40, Part 15, Section 460.10(4) acquisition, or construction of facilities, except for grant funds awarded under the H4TXH program, is prohibited.

9. Child support and alimony are not considered emergency financial assistance and are not permitted under this grant.

10. Court-ordered or settlement-mandated payments are not permitted.

11. Tax costs in the form of special assessments for capital improvements and/or federal income taxes are not permitted under this grant.

12. Medical expenses are not allowed. Medical treatment expenses including physician bills, prescription medications, medical insurance premiums or copays, audiology, vision care, emergency/after-hours clinic costs, lab work, imagery, and prescribed prosthetics.

13. Stipends – per Texas Administrative Code, Title 40, Part 15, Section 460.10(11) stipends for beneficiaries, volunteers, students, interns, employees, and members of the board of directors are prohibited.

14. Release Time is an indirect cost and is not allowable as a fringe benefit or a component to a compensation package for a grant-funded employee.

15. Paying out accrued annual leave is not allowable because it does not contribute to the delivery of client services. Grant-funded employees are encouraged to use the annual and sick leave they accrue (as authorized by their organization's employee management policies) during the grant period.

16. FVA grants use a 10% de minimis indirect cost rate for reimbursing indirect costs. Negotiated indirect cost rates based on cost allocation plans are not accepted. In other words, indirect costs that exceed the 10% limit are not allowable.

IV. 2023-2024 Funding Opportunity and Application Guidelines

A. Total Funding Available and Number of Awards. The anticipated amount available for awarding in 2023-24 for all four FVA grant programs including VCSO Funding and possible grant renewals is \$30,000,000. The number of awards will be dependent upon the FVA grant amounts awarded to Eligible Applicants. Requested grant amounts must be one of the specific grant amounts listed. This amount is subject to change due to availability of funds.

B. Funding Priorities for 2023-24 FVA Grants. The Texas Veterans Commission (TVC) established the following priorities to provide guidance to the FVA Advisory Committee in developing funding recommendations and for the Commission in making grant awards. The FVA Advisory Committee shall provide funding recommendations for grant applications that:

1. Meet the overall FVA program goals. *See Section II, Paragraph C.*
2. Provide services and resources available through FVA grant programs to veterans and their families based upon their expressed needs for their county and/or region. (Does not apply to VTC grants)
3. Place a high priority on budgeting for client services.
4. Fund organizations with a demonstrated history of meeting grant performance benchmarks.

C. Term of 2023-2024 Grant. Grants awarded under this RFA will be for one (1) year beginning on July 1, 2023 and ending on June 30, 2024. Reimbursement will only be made for those allowable expenses that occur within the term of this grant. No pre-award spending will be allowed.

D. Number of FVA Grants per Organization. Applicants can submit one application per grant program, for a total of two grant applications for all grant programs announced in Part II of this RFA. Applicants may only be awarded a maximum of one grant per grant program, and a maximum of two grants for the term of this grant. Organizations may not have overlapped or concurrent grants in the same grant program during one grant period.

E. Application Period. The application period for this grant opens October 5, 2022 and closes December 5, 2022. Applications must be submitted by 5pm (Central Time) on the closing date through the TVC Grants portal. Only applications submitted via the portal will be considered for funding.

F. Eligible Applicants:

1. Organizations that are currently providing services under a renewed grant are not eligible for a second renewal and must apply under this RFA for the 2023-24 grant period.
2. Units of local government.
3. IRS Code § 501(c)(19) Posts or organizations of past or present members of the Armed Forces.
4. IRS Code § 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations authorized to do business in Texas; or
5. Texas chapters of IRS Code § 501(c)(4) Veteran’s service organizations.

G. Not Eligible to Apply:

1. Individuals.
2. For-profit entities.
3. Units of federal or state government, state agencies, colleges and universities.
4. Organizations that have not fulfilled and maintained all legal requirements to operate in the state of Texas.
5. Organizations that do not have current operations in Texas or a Texas-based chapter; and
6. Organizations that are currently providing services under a non-renewed grant during the 2022-23 grant period, have an opportunity to meet renewal criteria for a 2023-24 grant, and therefore are ineligible to submit applications for the same grant programs announced in this RFA (see Section III, paragraph K above).
7. Applicant organizations with contracts or agreements with the Texas Veterans Commission may be ineligible for Fund for Veterans’ Assistance grant funding requested for Proposed Projects involving the same or similar services as those funded under the contract. Applicants are responsible for ensuring their submitted application discloses any such contract. The Proposed Project must be clearly and sufficiently differentiated in the application from any contracted services.

H. Online Grant Application. Applicants are required to complete and submit the application on the TVC Grants portal. Paper applications are not accepted. Each Organization is required to register for one account in the Grants portal. This one account is used for all applications submitted by that Organization.

Each section description provides an explanation of the information required to complete the application. Per 2 CFR §200.204, the application window will be open for 60 days. Applicants are encouraged to submit their applications in the Grants portal at least 72 hours prior to the announced application closing date to avoid technical or user-generated issues. The Grants portal will not allow applications to be submitted after the announced closing time and date.

I. Funding Amounts per Grant Programs. Eligible Applicants can request funding in increments of \$5,000 when their grant-funded services are provided at the local, county, regional, and state-wide levels. See table below.

Funding Amount Requested	Veteran County Service Office grants	Veteran Treatment Court grants	General Assistance grants	Housing for Texas Heroes grants	Veteran Mental Health grants
\$5,000 - \$300,000	County-level Services in GA (or) H4TXH (or) VMH	County-level Veteran Treatment Courts	Local, County, and Regional Applications	Local, County, Regional, & Statewide Applications	Local, County, Regional, & Statewide Applications
\$5,000 - \$400,000	N/A	Regional Court (2 or more counties)	N/A	N/A	N/A
\$5,000 - \$500,000	N/A	N/A	Statewide	Statewide	Statewide

J. Matching Funds. While there is no mandated matching requirement, the FVA does expect Grantees to share in the operational cost of funded projects. Applicants are required to identify the anticipated funds they will use on the Proposed Project. Organization revenue, excluding FVA grants, will be reviewed with respect to the amount requested in the application.

K. Required Financial Documentation with Applications.

1. An Eligible Applicant must provide the minimum required financial documentation for the range in which their requested grant amount falls. Units of Local Government are not required to submit financial documentation. The amount of funding requested by an Eligible Applicant will determine the financial documents the Eligible Applicant must provide.

2. An Eligible Applicant may supply financial documentation that is greater than what is required for an FVA Grant Amount (per the table below) but may not supply less than the Minimum Required Financial Documentation. *See Part VI. Key Terms & Definitions*

FVA Grant Amount	Minimum Required Financial Documentation
\$500,000 \$300,000 \$250,000 \$200,000 \$150,001	Independent Audited Financial Statements
\$150,000 \$100,000 \$75,000 \$50,001	IRS Tax Form 990 showing Part X Balance Sheets
\$50,000 \$30,000 \$20,000 \$15,000 \$5,000	Compilation of Financial Statements: Profit & Loss Statements for previous two quarters, and other pertinent financial statements reflecting cash flow and available cash balances for at least the two previous quarters.

3. Required Financial Documents:

a) Organizations with a combined total of requested and renewed grant funding over \$750,000 are required to provide an A-133 single audit as required by TxGMS and 2 CFR 200 with their application.

b) Organizations with a combined total of requested and renewed grant funding over \$150,000 are required to provide an independent audited financial statement with their application.

c) Organizations with a combined total of requested and renewed grant funding over 50,000 are required to provide an IRS Tax 990 return with Part X Balance Sheets.

4. Applicants are expected to read and be familiar with Annex A - FVA Grant Program Requirements and Terms and Conditions, unallowable expenses published in the TAC § 460.10, in this RFA, and in the 2 CFR 200.

L. Application Certification. Applicants will attest to a True and Correct Statement as part of the online application submission confirming compliance with all program requirements, terms and conditions, and provisions and assurances.

M. Application Eligibility.

1. A Grant Application received by the Agency must meet the following requirements to be considered eligible for the competitive selection process for grant funding:

- a) Be completed according to the grant application instructions.
- b) Satisfy all requirements as listed in Section V. Application Review and Award Process; and
- c) Submitted via the TVC Grants portal by the deadline established in this RFA.

2. If a Grant Application received by the Agency does not meet all requirements listed above, it may not be considered for funding. FVA may request additional documentation from the applicant for clarification after initial review of submitted application. FVA will not request any missing documents. Any information requested by the FVA must be submitted within five (5) business days of FVA's request. If clarification information is not received or is incomplete, the application may not be considered for funding.

N. Application Eligibility – Unallowable Expenses. The requested grant amount will be reduced by the TVC Executive Director during application eligibility screening if the application includes unallowable budgeted expense(s) equaling 20%-40% of the total grant amount requested. Example: if \$20,000 of unallowable costs are listed in the budget of an application seeking \$100,000 of grant funding, the unallowable items will be removed by FVA, and the application amount will be reduced to \$80,000. The TVC Executive Director shall determine if the resulting, reduced application will move forward in the competitive selection process for awarding.

O. Ineligible Applications. Grant Applications received will be reviewed for eligibility and deemed ineligible if one or more of the following applies:

1. The application is not complete.
2. Minimum Financial Documentation is not provided.
3. The Application Package is missing required attachments or signatures.
4. If an audit completed in the past 2 years has significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. A grantee with similar audit findings during the grant period will make them ineligible for renewal.
5. If the organization has an exclusion record listed on the General Services Administration (GSA) System for Award Management (SAM). A grantee with an exclusion record listed in GSA SAM will be ineligible for renewal.
6. The Application Package is not submitted through the TVC Grants portal by the deadline.
7. The **application is ineligible** if more than 40% of the budgeted expenses in the application are determined unallowable.
8. Applicant organizations with contracts or agreements with the Texas Veterans Commission **may be ineligible** for Fund for Veterans' Assistance grant funding requested for Proposed Projects involving the same or similar services as those funded under the contract. Applicants are responsible for ensuring their submitted application discloses any such contract. The Proposed Project must be clearly and sufficiently differentiated in the application from any contracted services.

P. Application Webinar and Questions. Potential applicants will have the opportunity to participate in an information webinar session regarding 2023-24 FVA grant applications. The webinar is tentatively scheduled as listed in Section V, Paragraph C below. Information regarding the webinar will be available on the FVA website. Please check the FVA website for updated information.

1. The information webinar will address questions regarding the application or application process but will not address a specific project or an organization’s application.

2. All questions pertaining to this RFA must be submitted to rfaquestions@tvc.texas.gov with “**2023-24 [Grant Program inserted here] Question**” in the subject line of the email. FAQs and responses will be posted on the FVA 2023-2024 Apply Home webpage.

Q. Application Package. A complete Application Package includes submission completed online application and attached items listed below via the TVC Grants portal. An Application Package may have up to five attachments. Failure to provide required attachments **or** to agree with the True and Correct Statement **will result in ineligibility**. The Application Package includes the items listed below. When submitting the application package, name each attachment according to numbers below.

1. Résumés of the Principal Participants in the organization.

2. List and terms of current governing body members (Board of Directors, Commissioners Court, City Council Members).

3. Financial Documentation if not a Unit of Local Government per *Part IV, Section K*.

4. IRS Tax determination letter regarding non-profit status, if applicable. Do not submit paperwork from the State Secretary of State or the State Comptroller of Public Accounts regarding non-profit status. Only IRS Tax determination letter indicating your organization is recognized as a tax-exempt non-profit is acceptable.

5. A copy of current professional liability insurance and/or malpractice insurance policy.

V. Application Review and Award Processes

A. Application Eligibility Assessment & Review

1. All applications are screened for eligibility before entering the competitive selection process. The eligibility assessment is designed to be a proactive measure to prevent fraud, waste, and abuse and to alert the Commission to potential risks before an award is made.

2. Applicant Risk Determination. Organizations and their applications will be assessed for risk including review of additional information available about the organization such as public information discovered through open-source research, Federal Audit Clearing House (Harvester), IRS Select Check, SAM, GuideStar and FVA risk assessment. Organizations determined to be High Risk will be highlighted for the Advisory Committee and Commissioners’ awareness during their

evaluation and awarding consideration. If selected, High Risk organizations are subject to additional conditions as defined in 2 CFR 200.207.

3. Applicant financial stability will be assessed based on submitted financial documentation and additional information available. The organization’s reported previous year annual revenue not including any FVA grants will be compared to the amount requested in the application. All information should demonstrate that the applicant, if selected, will have the required working capital available to execute the project and then request reimbursements supported by adequate documentation. Competitive organizations typically can show a cash and/or cash equivalent balance covering at least 2 months of projected expenses for the grant project included in the application.

4. Application Review. Following eligibility screening, risk determination, and financial stability assessment, the eligible applications are reviewed by the FVA staff to assess the application’s fit and alignment with FVA’s grant program, as described in the RFA and the FVA Program Requirements and Terms and Conditions. Each application receives independent reviews from three separate FVA staff. The results from the reviews are weighted based on the percentages in the table below.

Areas for Review	Weighted Percentage
<p><i>Proposed Project</i> Is the proposed project reasonable, feasible, and able to be implemented?</p> <p>Does the proposed project support TVC program goals, as described in the application?</p>	<p>40%</p>
<p><i>Organizational Management</i> Does the organization have the capacity and experience to successfully accomplish the proposed project?</p> <p>What is the performance history of this organization with TVC grant funding?</p>	<p>25%</p>
<p><i>Budget</i> Is the budget reasonable, allowable, and necessary to accomplish the proposed project?</p> <p>Does the proposed budget include unallowable expenses specified in the RFA and application instructions?</p> <p>Does the proposed budget indicate a priority to fund client services?</p>	<p>35%</p>

B. Application Awarding Process. All eligible applications will be given to the FVA Advisory Committee for their evaluation and preparation of award recommendations to the Commission. The FVA Advisory Committee uses the application, its attachments, the applicant risk determination, FVA staff

review, the FVA Program Goals, and the Commissions' priorities to formulate the recommendation list for awarding.

1. The FVA Advisory Committee will convene in January 2023 for a public presentation of the Proposed Projects by Applicants. Following that public presentation, the FVA Advisory Committee will convene in late March or early April 2023 to make the award recommendations. Additional information on these meetings (specific location and dates) will be available and shared when confirmed. The dates of these meetings are subject to change. Please check the FVA website for updated information (tvc.texas.gov/grants). Applicants are not required to participate in the presentation meeting, as their recommendation for awarding is not based on the presentation. The presentation meeting serves as an opportunity for applicants to present their projects and interact in-person or virtually with the FVA Advisory Committee while describing their projects' objectives.

2. The funding recommendations made by the FVA Advisory Committee will be presented to the Commission in May 2023 for the Commission's award decision. Additional information on this meeting will be made available when details are confirmed. The exact date of this meeting has not been set. Please check the FVA website for updated information.

3. If any part of the submitted application needs to be revised (for example, if the Grantee is awarded an amount other than that requested or the application mischaracterizes or contains unallowable costs), the Awarded Applicant must submit a revised application during post-award negotiations, following the 3rd Quarter Commission Meeting. Any element of the awarded application that is outside the scope or allowable expenses for the awarded service category will be removed during negotiations. The Agency will provide instructions and guidelines for the submission of the revised application.

4. When the application window is opened, and prior to the TVC Commission making the grant awards, the FVA staff and the FVA Advisory Committee members will not be able to discuss applications with any organization.

5. Award determinations will be posted on FVA website after the 3rd Quarter Commission Meeting.



C. Key Dates for Grant Application and Award Processes. The dates listed in this RFA are subject to change. Please check the FVA website for updated information.

September 27, 2022 – 10:00am: 2023-2024 Request for Application (RFA) Webinar. Additional information will be posted on website. These dates are subject to change. Please check the FVA website.

October 5, 2022 – 2:00pm: 2023-2024 Application Webinar. Additional information will be posted on website. Pre-register for this webinar at FVA homepage: [Apply Home – Texas Veterans Commission](#)

October 5, 2022 – 5:00pm: Application Window opens for 2023-2024 FVA Grants. RFA will be posted for public viewing at <https://www.tvc.texas.gov/grants/> and the TVC Grants portal will be opened. Visit [Apply Home – Texas Veterans Commission](#) for access to the Grants Portal.

November 28, 2022 – 5:00pm: Last day to submit RFA questions to TVC (rfaquestions@tvc.texas.gov) regarding this RFA.

December 5, 2022 – 5:00pm: All applications must be submitted. Application portal will close automatically at 5:00 p.m., Central Standard Time on this date.

January 2023: All eligible organizations may present their application to the FVA Advisory Committee in person or virtual-remote. Travel expenses are not covered. Additional information will be posted on the website later. This date is subject to change. Please check the FVA website for city, venue, date/time, and registration information.

March 2023: Funding Recommendation meeting. FVA Advisory Committee meets to confirm funding recommendations. Additional information will be posted on the website later. This date is subject to change. Please check the FVA website for city, venue, and date/time information.

May 2023: TVC Commission meeting. Austin, Texas. Additional information will be available later. This date is subject to change. Please check the FVA website.

May 15, 2023 – 10:00am: 2023-2024 Newly Awarded Applicants & Renewed Grantees Webinar. Additional information will be posted on website. These dates are subject to change. Please check the FVA website.

June 2023: Notice of Grant Awards to be sent to funded organizations.

July 1, 2023: Grant Funding Period begins.

June 30, 2024: Grant Funding Period ends.

D. FVA Grantee Training. Awarded Applicants will be required to participate in training. This training will be conducted remotely either via webinar or conference call, or in some instances FVA staff may conduct an onsite training visit at the Awarded Applicant's facility. Training costs related to FVA Grant training do not need to be included in the budget for the Proposed Project.

VI. Definitions of Key Terms

Key Terms	Definition
Advisory Committee	The committee formed under Texas Administrative Code, Title 40, Part 15, Section 452.2(c), relating to Fund for Veterans' Assistance Advisory Committee. Consists of 9 volunteer members appointed by the Commission, who are tasked with providing recommendations for the FVA program to the Commission.
Agency	The Texas Veterans Commission.
Allocable	The process of assigning a cost in reasonable proportion to the benefit provided or other equitable relationship. A cost is allocable to an award if the goods or services involved are chargeable or assignable to that award in accordance with relative benefits received.
Allowable	Cost that is allocable, necessary, and reasonable for the performance of the award and conforms to any limitation set forth in the RFA and is consistent with policies and procedures that apply uniformly to grant awards and other activities of the grantee.
AMI	Area Median Income calculated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to determine the income eligibility requirements.
Applicant	Shall have the same meaning as Eligible Applicant as defined in the Texas Administrative Code, Title 40, Part 15, Section 460.3(a). The following are eligible to apply for grant funds: 1) Units of local government; 2) IRS Code § 501(c)(19) Posts or organizations of past or present members of the Armed Forces; 3) IRS Code § 501(c)(3) private nonprofit organizations authorized to do business in Texas; 4) Texas chapters of IRS Code § 501(c)(4) Veteran's service organizations. 5) Non-profit organizations authorized to do business in Texas with experience providing services to Veterans.
Approved Budget	The budget included in a grant application that corresponds with the amount awarded by the Commission and finalized through negotiations.
Assistive Technologies	Products and equipment that increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities of persons with disabilities. Consists of wheelchairs & batteries, walkers, crutches, hospital beds, lift chairs, portable ramps, hearing aids, orthotic inserts & shoes, and eyeglasses. Contact your grant officer for more information.

Audited Financial Statements	A consulting service provided by a third-party Certified Public Accountant (CPA) that reviews the accounting processes and procedures. The CPA will review the financial statements using standards promulgated by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.
Award	Consists of grants, contracts, and other agreements between a TVC and a grantee.
Awarded Applicant	Shall have the same meaning as Grantee. An organization that receives a grant from the Fund for Veterans' Assistance.
Beneficiary	A member of the target population served by the Grantee's organization. For purposes of this grant, the Beneficiary, is a Texas veteran, Texas surviving spouse, or a Texas veteran's dependent.
Cancellation	Cessation of payment of grant funds and withdrawal of the Grantee's right to receive additional grant funds.
Capital Asset	Capital assets means tangible or intangible assets used in operations having a useful life of more than one year which are capitalized in accordance with GAAP. Capital assets include: (a) Land, buildings (facilities), equipment that exceeds the capitalization threshold, and intellectual property (including software) whether acquired by purchase, construction, manufacture, lease-purchase, exchange, or through capital leases; and (b) Additions, improvements, modifications, replacements, rearrangements, reinstallations, renovations or alterations to capital assets that materially increase their value or useful life (not ordinary repairs and maintenance).
Capital Expenditure	Capital expenditures means expenditures to acquire capital assets or expenditures to make additions, improvements, modifications, replacements, rearrangements, reinstallations, renovations, or alterations to capital assets that materially increase their value or useful life.
Capitalization Threshold	The minimum cost at which an asset must be reflected in accounting records and financial statements.
Case Management	Case management is defined as a "professional and collaborative process that assesses, plans, implements, coordinates, monitors, and evaluates the options and services required to meet an individual's needs". For the case manager, the highest level of responsibility is to the client. As advocates on behalf of clients, case managers are

obliged to coordinate services and support that is safe, timely, effective, efficient, equitable, client-centered, and with measurable outcomes.

Child/Adult Care Services	Provides a safe group environment that includes supervision and care of all activities of daily living.
Clinical Counseling Services	Clinical therapy provided by licensed mental health professionals within the scope of their training and professional standards aimed at addressing mental health concerns.
Commission	The members of the Texas Veterans Commission. Consists of five members appointed by the Governor of Texas.
Community Integration	Participation in society through community networking, employment, independent living, and social activity.
Compilation of Financial Statements	Refers to the process whereby an accountant presents, in the form of financial statements, information that is the representation of management (owners), without undertaking to express any assurance on the statements. This may or may not be done by a third-party CPA.
Contractors	An independent entity that agrees to furnish certain services that meet or exceed stated requirements or specifications, at a mutually agreed upon price and within a specified timeframe to a grantee.
Cost - Direct	<u>Direct costs</u> are allocable costs that can be identified specifically for a particular grant project and provide a service directly to a beneficiary.

Examples of Direct Costs

Salaries and Wages and Fringe Benefits: Case Managers, clinical counselors that work directly with beneficiaries. While their cost can be allocated between other funding sources, they provide a service directly to beneficiaries.

Travel: Cost for organization employees (not contractors), case managers, clinical counselors to travel to provide services to beneficiaries, conduct outreach in the community and attend approved, grant specific training conferences.

Supplies: Cost for supplies to grant organization staff to use for delivery of direct client services.

Client Services: Cost for the direct services provided to beneficiaries that are allocable to the approved grant project and are in line with the Request for Application (RFA).

Cost – Other
Direct

Other direct cost are allocable costs that can be 100% identified specifically for a particular grant project but are not identified as direct or indirect cost. These costs provide a service to the project but not directly to a beneficiary and are incurred specifically for the grant funded purpose.

Examples of Other Direct Costs

1. Rent and utilities for the organization’s primary service location (facilities) are considered indirect costs and are not considered other direct costs (see Indirect Cost section below).
2. Additional offices/locations where veterans can receive TVC grant-funded services. The operating and maintenance costs for additional locations are considered other direct costs if **ALL** these conditions are met:
 - a. TVC grant-funded services are the **ONLY** services provided at the additional location
 - b. The staff at the additional location spend 100% of their time serving veterans within the scope of the TVC grant-funded project
 - c. No other client services, business functions, or activities are provided or performed at the additional location - outside of the approved TVC grant project scope
3. Home modification inspectors that inspect the beneficiaries’ homes for planned and completed repairs.
4. Printing of grant project literature and brochures, fliers, forms, and business cards.
5. Outreach activities to inform the community of the available services via radio, television, newspaper, and social media.
6. Software that is 100% specific to the TVC grant-funded project and not used by the organization for other projects.
7. Cell phone service for Case managers or counselors that are 100% allocated to grant project.

Cost - Indirect

Indirect costs are classified as facilities and administration. “Facilities” are considered operating and maintenance expenses of the organization’s building and properties. “Administration” is defined as general administration and general expenses such as all costs associated with executives, directors, managers, accounting & payroll functions, human resources functions, and all other types of general organizational support expenditures not listed specifically under Facilities.

Indirect costs are those cost that are associated with the daily operations of an organization that are incurred by the organization prior to being awarded grant funding. This also applies to non-profit organizations that operate out of residential properties or homes.

Examples of Indirect Costs

- Executives and directors rarely provide a direct service to beneficiaries. In most cases the executives and directors focus on the overall mission of the organization.
- Finance, accounting, and personnel staff perform daily duties that may involve duties to the grant project but are not providing services directly to the beneficiaries (veterans).
- Software used by the organization to case-manage beneficiaries in all their projects (grant-funded or not).
- Software used by the organization to operate the organization’s overall mission – such as time keeping & payroll, performance evaluations, customer satisfaction/feedback, and other tools that are used with or without TVC grant funding.
- Printers, phones, webservices that are being used by the organization as part of their daily operation and are used for all organizational functions/projects.

Cost Incurred A cost for which an organization has become liable as documented in an invoice (not an estimate), contracts and contract amendments, , even if it has not yet received an invoice from a supplier as documentation of the cost.

Court Ordered Payment The payment of money or other property by a party to the court for later distribution in accordance with the suit's settlement or the court's judgement.

De-obligation Downward adjustment of the obligations recorded in a contract document.

Dependents Spouse, minor son, or daughter, including stepchild or adopted child of a Texas veteran residing with the veteran or under age 23 if a full-time student. Includes a child who is incapable of self-support because of a mental or physical incapacity that existed before age 21 or occurred before the age of 23 while a full-time student.

Disabled Veteran	As defined in Title 5, United States Code Annotated, Section 2108(2), "An individual who has served on active duty in the armed forces, (except as provided under section 2108a) has been separated therefrom under honorable conditions and has established the present existence of a service-connected disability or is receiving compensation, disability retirement benefits, or pension because of a public statute administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs or a military department."
Disallowed Cost	A questioned cost that the Agency has determined violates the conditions of the Notice of Grant Award (NOGA) or other law, regulation, or other document governing the expenditures of funds.
Eligible Applicants	As defined in the Texas Administrative Code, Title 40, Part 15, Section 460.3(a). The following are eligible to apply for grant funds: 1) Units of local government; 2) IRS Code § 501(c)(19) Posts or organizations of past or present members of the Armed Forces; 3) IRS Code § 501(c)(3) private nonprofit organizations authorized to do business in Texas; 4) Texas chapters of IRS Code § 501(c)(4) Veteran's service organizations; or 5) Non-profit organizations authorized to do business in Texas with experience providing services to Veterans.
Equipment	Equipment means tangible property (including information technology systems) having a useful life of more than one year and a per-unit acquisition cost which equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization threshold established by the grantee for financial statement purposes or \$2,000.
Essential Needs	Basic human needs for sustenance including shelter, food, and clothing necessary for long-term physical and mental well-being.
Evidence Based Practice	A problem-solving approach to the delivery of mental health care that integrates the best available research from studies and client care data with clinical expertise in the context of patient characteristics, culture, and preferences.
Evidence Based Practice Training	Certification and/or training commensurate with providing a professional with the ability to effectively implement a specific evidence-based practice within its intended scope to maximize positive impact for patient/client.
Evidence Based Treatment	Clinical therapeutic services that are specifically delivered by trained licensed mental health professionals within the established scope and parameters of the research supporting the treatment and clinical expertise.

Expenditure Benchmark	The percent of the total grant award that must be expended and reported by designated timeframes within the Grant Funding Period. Expenditure data is compiled in the quarterly report.
Family Counseling	Counseling that can help family members improve communication and resolve conflicts and teach skills to deepen family connections and be better prepared for stressful life events.
Family Stabilization	Helping families to develop skills they need to maintain a safe and health family unit, while improving the family’s integration with the community.
Food Pantry	A site that distributes bags or boxes of non-perishable nutritious food to hungry families and individuals.
Food Voucher Services	An agreement or contract between a grantee and a local grocery vendor where eligible veterans can present a food voucher issued from the grantee to the grocer in exchange for food items. Contact your FVA grant officer for more information.
Governing Body	A group who formulates the policy and directs the affairs of an organization in collaboration with managing staff.
Grant	A sum of money given by an organization or a unit of government for a particular purpose. Grants do not include donations or in-kind contributions. An award of financial assistance in the form of money to carry out a program in accordance with rules, regulations and guidance provided by the grantor agency.
Grant Application	Documents submitted by an organization or unit of local government in response to the Request for Applications (RFA). Also referred to as “Application Package” in this RFA.
Grant Funding Period	The time period specified in the RFA and NOGA during which all work must be completed, and expenses must be incurred and paid by the grantee.

Grant Project	The work and activities in the approved application for which grant funding has been awarded and finalized through negotiations. During the open application process and before the Texas Veterans Commission makes final grant awards, indicated by a fully executed NOGA, the Grant Project will be known as the Proposed Project.
Grantee	An organization that receives a grant from the Fund for Veterans' Assistance which is responsible for the administration of the award.
Home Modification	The modification of a home to allow accessibility and improve the health and safety of the disabled or aging resident(s).
Home Repair	Repair to a home to support basic functional living and/or to improve health and safety of the residents. To qualify as an allowed repair item, the object in the home must be either broken or be degraded to the point of non-functioning. Leaking plumbing, clogged drain fields, inoperable septic tanks/valves, electrical failures (non-operable switches, exposed wiring, broken breakers), structural issues with framing, foundation repairs, broken windows & doors, broken tile floors, broken cabinetry, and broken HVAC are all examples of items that qualify as a repair item.
Home Weatherization	The repair steps needed to seal a home from elements, rodents, or insect infestations to improve the health and safety of the residents. Door & window seals, garage door seals, caulking, installing siding & fascia boards, masonry repairs, roof repair/replacement are examples of the repairs considered as weatherization.
Homeless Veteran	Individuals who have lost their primary nighttime residence or are living in a place not meant for human habitation, in an emergency shelter, in transitional housing, or are exiting an institution where they temporarily resided.
Homeless Support	Resources and activities to support individuals who are homeless, have transitioned out of a homeless status or are at risk of losing their primary nighttime residence within 14 days. Resources and activities include housing relocation, family and financial stabilization services, and housing assistance as necessary to position the individual or family into an emergency shelter, transitional housing or a place meant for human habitation.
Household Goods Services	Basic furniture and housewares provided to a veteran to meet basic needs for setting up an apartment or transitional housing location. Includes items such as small tables and chairs for eating, mattress, lamps, linen, towels, pots & pans, dishes & glassware, and cleaning supplies. Contact your FVA grant officer for more information.

HUD	Housing and Urban Development
HUD/VASH	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) - A collaborative program between HUD and VA that combines HUD housing vouchers with VA supportive services to help homeless veterans and their families find and sustain permanent housing
Ineligible	Any application submitted by an organization that does not meet the requirements of this RFA will be disqualified from further review and deemed Ineligible.
Intake	The intake process is the initial step in developing a relationship between the organization staff and the beneficiaries. Initial contact can be made in person, over the phone or through electronic communication. The purpose of the intake process is to gather information and identify the immediate needs of the beneficiaries, determine eligibility, and gather required documents.
IRS Tax Form 990 showing Part X Balance Sheets	Refers to form used by tax-exempt organizations, non-exempt charitable trusts, and section 527 political organizations to provide the IRS with the information required by Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. § 6033 (relating to returns by exempt organizations). To be accepted as a Minimum Required Financial Documentation, the Form 990 submitted must be a complete, legible copy of the signed form filed with the IRS and include Part X. Balance Sheets.
Low Income	Defined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as 80 percent of the median family income for the area, subject to adjustments for areas with unusually high or low incomes or housing costs.
Marketing	Messaging to a mass audience about grant funded services available to the public or a specific demographic element of the public.
Meal Delivery Service	Delivers the nutritious meals, friendly visits and safety checks that enable Texas veterans and their families to live nourished lives with independence and dignity.
Meal Service	Provides nutritious meals and safety checks to Texas veterans and their families who do not have the means or resources to eat healthy meals.

Mortgage	Obligation, including a mortgage, mortgage deed, bond, note, deed of trust, or another instrument that is a lien. Grantees are required to confirm that the owner of a home is current on any existing mortgage loans or home equity loans prior to providing home modification, repair, or weatherization assistance.
MVPN	Military Veteran Peer Network.
Notice of Grant Award	The Notice of Grant Award (NOGA) is the official grant award document notifying the grantee that an award has been made. The NOGA contains all terms and conditions of the grant award. The executed Notice of Grant Award (NOGA) and all addenda represent a legally binding contract ("Agreement") between the parties. Upon Commission approval of the grant award, the parties will be bound by the following: 1) the terms and requirements within this RFA document, 2) FVA Grant Program Requirements and Terms & Conditions, 3) the Grant Application and all items submitted by the grant applicant to the Commission in response to this RFA, and 4) the Notice of Grant Award (NOGA). In the event of conflicts or inconsistencies between any of these documents, the provisions set forth in the NOGA will prevail.
Outreach	Person to person interaction with a beneficiary regarding grant funded services available. Examples of outreach include tables at expositions or a community veteran event or visiting a veteran service organization luncheon to describe grant funded services offered. Outreach activities include a specific date, location (can be virtual), and measurable results.
Peer	Veteran's and veteran's family members with shared life experiences.
Peer Networking Centers	Location which includes staffing by Veterans, for Veterans and their families where they are comfortable interacting with their Peers to learn about accessing resources and services for their benefit.
Peer Support Certification and Training	Training provided to assist veterans serve as counselors, mentors, life coaches, emotional support sponsors, suicide prevention specialists, or other role in the community to serve their fellow veterans and veteran families. Awareness training regarding trauma-informed conditions such as PTSD, substance abuse, and military sexual assault qualify.
Peer Support Services	Non-clinical services based upon the premise that an individual with a "military lived shared experience," in this case military service, is uniquely able to contribute to the rehabilitation and recovery of those needing services. Offers emotional support, shared knowledge, teaches skills, provide practical assistance, and connect veterans with resources.

Peer-to-Peer Counseling	Interactions between trained Peers who are successfully adapting to life and Peers who want to do the same. The trained Peer has completed training, is knowledgeable about resources, and can make efficacious referrals when appropriate; the interactions are also typically mutually beneficial.
Performance Benchmark	The percent of each minimum required performance measure that must be met and reported by designated timeframes within the grant period. Performance data is compiled in the quarterly report.
Principal Participant	Project Coordinator and Financial Coordinator, and Executive Director or any other key stakeholders in the Proposed Project. An organization’s top management that provides leadership, oversight, grant project management to employees and staff working on the grant. Principal Participants must ensure the grant staff is operating the project as written in the approved award, following all organizational policies, and grant related rules and regulations.
Program Income	Gross income received by the grantee directly generated by a grant supported activity or earned only as a result of the grant agreement during the grant period.
Project Coordinator	Provides general leadership and direct oversight of the grant project activities including implementation, monitoring, reporting, and compliance to ensure the grant goals and metrics are met as outlined in the award.
Project Manager	Responsible for leading the grant award through planning, initiation, execution, control, and completion. Must ensure the grant staff is operating the project as written in the approved award.
Promotions Plan (Marketing & Outreach)	A plan that outlines how both marketing and outreach will be combined to meet measurable goals in: soliciting beneficiaries and increasing awareness of grant-funded services available.
Proposed Project	The work and activities for which funding is sought and as written in the approved application. Upon approval by the Texas Veterans Commission approve the application, the Proposed Project will then become known as the Grant Project.

Questioned Cost	A cost that has been identified to be an alleged violation of a provision of the NOGA, law, regulation, or other agreement or document governing the expenditure of funds or a cost that is not supported by adequate documentation.
Rapid Rehousing Program	Connects families and individuals experiencing homelessness to permanent housing through a tailored package of assistance that may include the use of time-limited financial assistance and targeted supportive services. Rapid rehousing programs help families and individuals living on the streets or in emergency shelters solve the practical and immediate challenges to obtaining permanent housing while reducing the amount of time they experience homelessness, avoiding a near-term return to homelessness, and linking to community resources that enable them to achieve housing stability in the long-term.
Reasonable	A cost is reasonable if, in its nature and amount, it does not exceed that which would be paid by a prudent person under the circumstances prevailing at the time the decision was made to incur the cost.
Regional	Refers to a Proposed Project whose service area includes two or more counties within the state and whose services are offered and available to beneficiaries living within those identified counties.
Reimbursement	Payment is provided after the grantee has paid for services provided or delivered to beneficiaries. TVC payments/reimbursements are paid on a monthly basis after the grantee has submitted the required accurate supporting documentation for expenses claimed during the reporting month.
Reimbursement Grant	The grantee is required to provide its own working capital to finance operations. Grant payments will be made to reimburse the grantee for actual expenditures made and supported by adequate documentation.
Rescind	Awarded grant applicant revokes, cancels, or repeals award prior to NOGA.
Restorative Dentistry	Management and procedures that dentist performs to keep patients' mouth healthy and functional. Emergency procedures to include dental implants, dentures, fillings, and crowns, not to exceed \$2,500 per beneficiary, the grantee's maximum allowable cost per client, or the lesser of the two.

Résumé A document that contains a summary of relevant job experience and education.

Rural Area Per the US Census Bureau, all population, housing, and territory not included within an urban area which is classified as an area of 50,000 or less people. Generally, it is a geographic area that is located outside cities and towns.

Rural Counties in Texas TVC grants programs follow the rural county definitions published by the Office of Rural Health Policy. The 181 counties listed below are considered rural counties in Texas.

Anderson	Concho	Gonzales	Kerr	Morris	Sherman
Andrews	Cooke	Gray	Kimble	Motley	Somervell
Angelina	Cottle	Grimes	King	Nacogdoches	Starr
Aransas	Crane	Hale	Kinney	Navarro	Stephens
Armstrong	Crockett	Hall	Kleberg	Newton	Sterling
Austin	Culberson	Hamilton	Knox	Nolan	Stonewall
Bailey	Dallam	Hansford	La Salle	Ochiltree	Sutton
Baylor	Dawson	Hardeman	Lamar	Oldham	Swisher
Bee	Deaf Smith	Hartley	Lamb	Palo Pinto	Terrell
Blanco	Delta	Haskell	Lavaca	Panola	Terry
Borden	DeWitt	Hemphill	Lee	Parmer	Throckmorton
Bosque	Dickens	Henderson	Leon	Pecos	Titus
Brewster	Dimmit	Hill	Limestone	Polk	Trinity
Briscoe	Donley	Hockley	Lipscomb	Presidio	Tyler
Brooks	Duval	Hood	Live Oak	Rains	Upton
Brown	Eastland	Hopkins	Llano	Reagan	Uvalde
Burnet	Edwards	Houston	Loving	Real	Val Verde
Calhoun	Erath	Howard	Madison	Red River	Van Zandt
Camp	Fannin	Hudspeth	Marion	Reeves	Walker
Carson	Fayette	Hutchinson	Mason	Refugio	Ward
Cass	Fisher	Irion	Matagorda	Roberts	Washington
Castro	Floyd	Jack	Maverick	Runnels	Wharton
Cherokee	Foard	Jackson	McCulloch	Sabine	Wheeler

Childress	Franklin	Jasper	McMullen	San Augustine	Wilbarger
Cochran	Freestone	Jeff Davis	Menard	San Jacinto	Willacy
Coke	Frio	Jim Hogg	Milam	San Saba	Winkler
Coleman	Gaines	Jim Wells	Mills	Schleicher	Wood
Collingsworth	Garza	Karnes	Mitchell	Scurry	Yoakum
Colorado	Gillespie	Kenedy	Montague	Shackelford	Young
Comanche	Glasscock	Kent	Moore	Shelby	Zapata
					Zavala

Statewide	Refers to a Proposed Project whose service area includes every county within the state and whose services are offered and readily available to beneficiaries living within every county within the state.
Stipend	A predetermined amount of money paid to trainees, interns, and students to help offset expenses. Often provided to those who are ineligible to receive a regular salary in exchange for the duties they perform.
Sub-Grant	An award made by a Grantee to another organization or agency using grant funds. Sub-granting FVA grants is prohibited under Texas Administrative Code, Title 40, Part 15, Section 460.10(2).
Supplanting	The replacement of agency funds for any activity of an existing project specifically because TVC grant funds were awarded
Surviving Spouse	A person who was the spouse of the veteran at the time of the veteran's death and (a) who lived with the veteran continuously from the date of marriage to the date of the veteran's death, and (b) has not remarried or has not since the death of the veteran and after September 19, 1962, lived with another person and held himself or herself out openly to the public to be the spouse of such other person.
Time and Effort	A document that captures the actual time worked and charged for allowable grant activities. Must be in writing and include actual time spent, period covered, and must be signed by employee and supervisor.

Transition Assistance	Provide information, resources, and tools to active duty, veterans, and their families to help prepare for the move from military to civilian life.
Transitional Housing	Provides homeless individuals and families with the short-term interim stability and support to successfully move to and maintain permanent housing and independent living.
Unallowable Cost	A cost that is 1) not necessary or reasonable for proper and efficient performance and administration of the project, 2) not allocable to the project, 3) not authorized or prohibited under State or local laws or regulations, and 4) does not conform to limitations or exclusions set forth in 2 CFR Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, Federal laws, terms and conditions of the award, or other governing regulations as to types or amounts of cost items.
Unduplicated	For purposes of this grant, unduplicated shall be defined as not previously counted during the grant award period.
Units of Local Government	A county, municipality, special district, school district, junior college district, a local workforce development board created under the Texas Government Code § 2308.253, or other legally constituted political subdivision of the state.
VCSO Funding	SB 1679 (85th Legislature) created a 5% set-aside for VCSO applications for FVA grants. This funding is available for General Assistance, Housing for Texas Heroes, and Veterans Mental Health grant applications with the Veteran County Service officer listed as the Project Coordinator.
Very Low Income	Household with less than 50% of the Area median income as defined by HUD.
Veterans Treatment Court	To provide support and resources for veterans involved with the criminal justice system, rather than punishment. These courts emphasize treatment rather than incarceration.
Workshop Program	Groups with shared knowledge or experience involved in learning or discussions working with interactive activities and exercises, with opportunities to practice applying the concepts that are presented to the group.