

**Funding Opportunity: Grants for Transportation of Veterans in Highly Rural Areas
– New Applicants**

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice of Funding Opportunity.

SUMMARY: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is announcing the availability of funds under the Grants for Transportation of Veterans in Highly Rural Areas. This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) contains information concerning the Grants for Transportation of Veterans in Highly Rural Areas program, grant application process, and amount of funding available.

DATES: Applications for assistance under the Grants for Transportation of Veterans in Highly Rural Areas Program must be submitted to www.grants.gov by 4:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on August 18, 2025. In the interest of fairness to all competing applicants and with the single exception described below regarding unforeseen technical problems beyond the control of the applicant with the Grants.gov website, this deadline is firm as to date and hour, and VA will treat as ineligible for consideration any application received after the deadline. Applicants should take this practice into account and make early submission of their materials to avoid any risk of loss of eligibility brought about by unanticipated delays, computer service outages, or other delivery-related problems.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The National Program Coordinator for Highly Rural Transportation Grants at HRTG@va.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Section I: Basic Information

Funding Opportunity Title: Grants for Transportation of Veterans in Highly Rural Areas

Announcement Type: Initial

Funding Opportunity Number: VA-HRTG-NEW-2025

Assistance Listing Number: 64.035, Veterans Transportation Program

Funding Details: In accordance with 38 CFR 17.710, VA is issuing this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Grants for Transportation of Veterans in Highly Rural Areas Program for fiscal year (FY) 2025. Approximately \$8 million is authorized to be appropriated for FY 2025. VA is issuing this additional notice to permit other applicants to apply for grants under the Program (in accordance with the terms and conditions of this notice). The following requirements apply to grants awarded under this Notice:

- One grant may be awarded to each grantee for FY 2025 for each highly rural area in which the grantee provides transportation services.
- Transportation services may not be simultaneously provided by more than one grantee in any single highly rural area.
- No single grant will exceed \$50,000 per highly rural area. Anticipated 3-4 new awards for a total of \$3 million, ranging from \$100,000 to \$1.5 million.
- A Veteran who is provided transportation services through a grantee's use of these grant monies will not be charged for such services.
- Grants awarded under this Notice will be for a one (1) year period.
- All awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and to any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by law.

Section II: Eligibility Information

The only entities eligible to apply for and receive grants are Veterans Service Organizations (VSO) recognized by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and State Veterans Service Agencies. Interested eligible entities must submit a complete grant application package to be considered.

Definitions: 38 CFR 17.701 contains definitions of terms used in the Grants for Transportation of Veterans in Highly Rural Areas program. Definitions of key terms are also provided below for reference; however, 38 CFR 17.701 should be consulted for a complete list of definitions.

- *Applicant* is an eligible entity that applies for a grant announced in a Notice of Funding Opportunity.
- *Eligible entity* is either a Veterans Service Organization or a State Veterans Service Agency.
- *Grantee* is an applicant that is awarded a grant under this NOFO.
- *Highly rural area* is an area consisting of a county or counties having a population of less than seven persons per square mile.
- *Notice* is a Notice of Funding Opportunity published in the Federal Register in accordance with 38 CFR 17.710.
- *Participant* is a Veteran in a highly rural area who is receiving transportation services from a grantee.
- *Provision of VA medical care* means the provision of hospital or medical services as authorized under 38 U.S.C. 1710, 1703, and 8153.
- *State Veterans Service Agency* means the element of a state government

that has responsibility for programs and activities of that government relating to Veterans benefits.

- *Subrecipient* is an entity that receives grant funds from a grantee to perform work for the grantee in the administration of all or part of the grantee's program.

- *Transportation services* mean the direct provision of transportation, or assistance with transportation, to travel to VA medical centers and other VA or non-VA facilities in connection with the provision of VA medical care.

- *Veteran* is a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service, and who was discharged or released there from under conditions other than dishonorable.

- *Veterans Service Organization* is an organization recognized by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for the representation of Veterans under 38 U.S.C. 5902.

Additional Restrictions on Eligibility and Automatic Ineligibility: Additional grant application requirements are specified in the application package. Submission of an incorrect or incomplete application package will result in the application being rejected during the threshold review, the initial review conducted by VA, to ensure the application package contains all required forms and certifications.

Complete packages will then be subject to the evaluation/scoring and selection process described in § 17.705(c) and (d), respectively. Applicants will be notified of any additional information needed to confirm or clarify information provided in the grant application and the deadline by which to submit such information.

Application Limits: Only one application from current grantees will be accepted. If multiple submissions are received, the last (date and time stamp) submission will be

reviewed.

Cost Sharing Requirements: This solicitation does not require grantees to provide matching funds as a condition of receiving such grants.

Section III: Program Description

General Purpose of the Program: Access to VA care for Veterans in highly rural areas continues to be an issue across the United States. VA has established this program to help address barriers to access to care. This program funds innovative approaches to transporting Veterans in highly rural areas who typically have longer commute times to VA-authorized health care appointments.

Program Goals and Objectives: This program furthers the Department's mission by offering grants to assist Veterans in highly rural areas through innovative transportation services to travel to VA authorized health care and to otherwise assist in providing transportation services in connection with the provision of VA medical care to these Veterans.

Achieving Program Goals and Objectives: VA's Veterans Transportation Program (VTP) offers Veterans many travel solutions to and from their VA-authorized health care appointments. To achieve this goal, this program offers services at no cost to eligible Veterans residing in highly rural areas.

Unallowable Costs: All non-Federal entities must be in compliance with 2 CFR 200.400-200.476 Cost Principles and all Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Regulations and Circulars.

Eligibility Criteria for Beneficiaries or Participants: The only entities eligible to apply for and receive grants are Veterans Service Organizations recognized by the Secretary of

Veterans Affairs and State Veterans Affairs Agencies. Current Highly Rural Transportation participating grantees are ineligible to apply for a grant under this notice. Interested eligible entities must submit a complete grant application package to be considered for a grant. Awarded grantees may only transport Veterans who reside in an eligible highly rural area which is less than seven persons per square mile to VA-authorized health care appointments.

Citations for Authorizing Statutes and Regulations: Section 307(a)(1) of the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010, Pub. L. No. 111-163, required VA to “establish a grant program to provide innovative transportation options to Veterans in highly rural areas.” VA implemented through regulations codified at 38 CFR 17.700-17.730, Grants for Transportation of Veterans in Highly Rural Areas. Funds made available under this Notice are subject to the requirements of the aforementioned regulations and other applicable laws and regulations.

Section IV: Application Contents and Format

Access to the Application: The application can be found at Grants.gov, utilizing the “search by assistance listing number” function, and entering in that search field the number 64.035. Questions should be referred to the Veterans Transportation Program (VTP) Office by email at HRTG@va.gov. For further information on Grants for Transportation of Veterans in Highly Rural Areas Program requirements, see the final rule published in the Federal Register (78 FR 19586) on April 2, 2013, which is codified in 38 CFR 17.700-17.730.

Component Pieces of the Application

- Program Narrative

- Timelines
- Budget Narrative
- Budget detail worksheet
- Information to complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF424):

The SF424 is a standard form required for use as a cover sheet for submission of pre-applications, applications, and related information. Grants.gov takes information from the applicant's profile to populate the fields on this form.

- **Program Narrative:** Provide a detailed narrative of your program scope and specifically discuss the innovative modes and methods of transportation services to be provided. If the provision of transportation services will necessitate procurement or use of specific equipment, such equipment must be specifically listed.

Note on Project Evaluations: Applicants that propose to use funds awarded through this solicitation to conduct project evaluations should be aware certain project evaluations (such as systematic investigations designed to develop or contribute to knowledge) may constitute research. However, project evaluations intended only to generate internal improvements to a program or service or are conducted only to meet VA's performance measure data reporting requirements, likely do not constitute research. Research, for the purposes of VA-funded programs, is defined as, "a systematic investigation, including research, development, testing, and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge." 38 CFR 16.102(I). In addition, research involving human subjects is subject to certain added protections, as set forth in 38 CFR part 16. Applicants should provide sufficient information for VA to determine whether certain project activities they propose would either intentionally or unintentionally collect

and/or use information in such a way that it meets VA's regulatory definition of research and thereby invoke the requirements and procedures set forth in 38 CFR part 16.

Indirect Cost Rates: Applicants may include indirect costs as part of their proposed budget. Applicants that have a previously negotiated indirect cost rate with a cognizant agency may utilize this rate when preparing and submitting a proposed budget. Those applicants that do not have a previously negotiated indirect cost rate may elect to apply a de minimis rate of ten percent indirect costs. Applicants that do not have a previously negotiated rate but wish to establish a negotiated indirect cost rate should submit alongside their proposal an Indirect Cost Rate Proposal justifying and evidencing the applicant's proposed indirect cost rate.

Formatting Requirements:

Budget Detail Worksheet: A sample SF424A Budget Detail Worksheet can be found at Grants.gov. Please submit a budget and label it as "SF424A Budget Detail Worksheet." The budget categories listed in the sample budget worksheet must be included if the budget is submitted in a different format. VA strongly recommends use of appropriately descriptive file names (e.g. "Program Narrative", "Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative", "Timelines", "Memorandum of Understanding", "Resumes") for all attachments. VA recommends resumes to be included in a single file.

Budget Narrative: The Budget Narrative should thoroughly and clearly describe every category of expense listed in the Budget Detail Worksheet. The narrative should be mathematically sound and correspond with the information and figures provided in the Budget Detail Worksheet. The narrative should explain how all costs are estimated and calculated and how they are relevant to the completion of the proposed project. The

narrative may include tables for clarification purposes but need not be in a spreadsheet format. As with the Budget Detail Worksheet, the Budget Narrative must be broken down.

Budget Brief (example):

1. Our organization requests _____ for the acquisition of _____ ADA-compliant van(s).

2. The total cost of the ADA-compliant van(s) is _____. This is the amount requested from VA.

3. Our organization will utilize _____ for innovative approaches for transporting Veterans. This is the amount requested from VA for a maximum of \$50,000.

Number of Copies Required: No paper submission will be accepted.

Signature Requirements: Signature of authorized representative will be required on electronic submissions certifying all statements are true, complete, and accurate to the best of their knowledge. Any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may be subject to criminal, civil or administrative penalties (18 U.S.C. 1001).

Third-Party Requirements: If an application identifies a sub-recipient that is either (1) a tribe or tribal organization or (2) a third party proposing to provide direct services or assistance to residents on tribal lands, then a current authorizing resolution of the governing body of the tribal entity or other enactment of the tribal council or comparable governing body authorizing the inclusion of the tribe or tribal organization and its membership must be included with the application. In those instances when an organization or consortium of tribes proposes to apply for a grant on behalf of a tribe or multiple specific tribes, then the application must include a resolution from all tribes that

will be included as a part of the services/assistance provided under the grant. A consortium of tribes for which existing consortium bylaws allow action without support from all tribes in the consortium (i.e., without authorizing resolution or other enactment of each tribal governing body) may submit a copy of its consortium bylaws with the application to satisfy this requirement.

Additionally, if a grantee's submission identified a sub-recipient/third party, such sub-recipient/third party must operate the program in accordance with the provisions of the award.

Section V: Submission Requirements and Deadlines

Request Application Package: Applications are submitted on Grants.gov and must be submitted as a complete package by the application deadline. Applications may not be sent by facsimile. Materials arriving separately will not be included in the application package for consideration and may result in the application being rejected. All applicable forms cited in the application description must be included.

Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and System for Award Management (SAM.gov):

Registration in SAM.gov and Grants.gov is required prior to submission. As of April 2022, the government transitioned from the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) to the UEI so applicants will be required to have an UEI. Applicants must continue to maintain an active registration in SAM.gov with current information at all times while it has an active Federal award or application under consideration by a Federal agency.

Submission Instructions: Applications will be submitted through Grants.gov. Grants.gov is a "one-stop storefront" that provides a unified process for all customers of Federal awards to find funding opportunities and apply for funding. Complete instructions on

how to register and submit a grant application can be found at www.grants.gov/quick-start-guide/applicants.

VA strongly encourages registering with Grants.gov several weeks before the deadline for application submission. The deadline for applying for funding under this announcement is August 18, 2025. Please visit the Grants.gov website and perform a search using the identifying information below to locate the funding opportunity. The Assistance Listing Number for this solicitation is 64.035, titled "Veterans Transportation Program" and the funding opportunity number is VA-HRTG-NEW-2025.

Applications must be consistent with this solicitation by following the directions in Grants.gov. The applicant should receive an email validation message from Grants.gov within 24-48 hours after submitting the electronic application. The validation message will state whether the grant application has been received and validated or rejected with an explanation. Important: Applicants are urged to submit their applications at least 72 hours prior to the due date of the application to allow time to receive the validation message and to correct any problems that may have caused a rejection notification.

Applicants should anticipate failure to submit an application that contains all specified elements will result in the rejection of their application at the threshold review stage. Moreover, applicants should anticipate if applications are not adequately responsive to the scope of the solicitation, particularly failure to include a program narrative, budget detail worksheet including a budget narrative, tribal resolution (if applicable), eligible entity designation, or a list of the highly rural county or counties to be served, they will be rejected and receive no further consideration.

Point of Contact for Technical Difficulties with Submission: If the applicant experiences technical difficulties at any point during this process, please call the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except Federal holidays.

If applicant experiences unforeseen Grants.gov technical issues beyond the applicant's control that prevents submission of its application by the deadline, the applicant must contact the VTP Office staff no later than 24 hours after the deadline and request approval to submit its application. At that time, VTP Office staff will instruct the applicant to submit specific information detailing the technical difficulties. The applicant must email: a description of the technical difficulties; a timeline of submission efforts; the complete grant application; the applicant's Unique Entity Identifier number; and Grants.gov Help Desk tracking number(s) received. After the VTP Office reviews all the information submitted and contacts the Grants.gov Help Desk to validate the technical issues reported, VA will contact the applicant to either approve or deny the request to submit a late application. The application will be rejected as untimely if the technical issues reported cannot be validated.

Submission Dates and Times: Grant applications under the Grants for Transportation of Veterans in Highly Rural Areas Program must be submitted to Grants.gov by 4:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on August 18, 2025. In the interest of fairness to all competing applicants, this deadline is firm as to date and hour and with the single exception described above regarding unforeseen technical problems beyond the control of the applicant with the Grants.gov website, VA will treat as ineligible for consideration any application received after the deadline. Applicants should take this into account and

submit early their materials to avoid any risk of loss of eligibility brought about by unanticipated delays, computer service outages, or other delivery-related problems.

To ensure a fair competition for limited discretionary funds, the following conditions are not valid reasons to permit late submissions: (1) failure to begin the registration process in sufficient time; (2) failure to follow Grants.gov instructions on how to register and apply as posted on its website; (3) failure to follow all of the instructions in the VA solicitation; and (4) technical issues experienced with the applicant's computer or information technology (IT) environment. Notifications regarding known technical problems with Grants.gov, if any, are posted on the Grants.gov website.

Intergovernmental Review Information: Some states require that applicants contact their State's Single Point of Contact (SPOC) to comply with the state's process for fulfilling Executive Order (E.O.) 12372 (1982).

Section VI: Application Review Information

Review Criteria: VTP conducts a financial review of applications for potential discretionary awards to evaluate the fiscal integrity and financial capability of applicants; examines proposed costs to determine if the Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative accurately explain project costs; and determines whether costs are reasonable, necessary, and allowable under applicable Federal cost principles and agency regulations.

Absent explicit statutory authorization or written delegation of authority to the contrary, the Veterans Health Administration, through the VTP Office, will forward the reviewers' recommendations for award to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs or designee, who will then review and approve each award decision. Such determinations by the

Secretary or designee will be final. VA will also consider factors including, but not limited to underserved populations; geographic diversity; strategic priorities; and available funding when making awards.

Initial Grant Scoring: Selection of Grants for Transportation of Veterans in Highly Rural Areas is very competitive. Listed below are the scoring and selection criteria:

A. VA will award up to 40 points (an applicant must score a minimum of 20 points) based on the program's plan for successful implementation as demonstrated by the following:

- i. Program scope is defined, and applicant has specifically indicated the mode(s) or method(s) of transportation services to be provided.
- ii. Program budget is defined, and applicant has indicated that grant funds will be sufficient to completely implement the program.
- iii. Program staffing plan is defined, and applicant has indicated there will be adequate staffing for delivery of transportation services according to program scope.
- iv. Program timeframe for implementation is defined, and applicant has indicated that the delivery of transportation services will be timely.

B. VA will award up to 30 points (an applicant must score a minimum of 15 points) based on the program's evaluation plan, as determined by the following:

- i. Measurable goals for determining the success of delivery of transportation services.
- ii. Ongoing assessment of B(i), with a means of adjusting the program if required.

C. VA will award up to 20 points (an applicant must score a minimum of 10

points) based on the applicant's community relationships in the areas to be serviced, as demonstrated by the following:

i. Applicant has existing relationship with state or local agencies or private entities, or will develop such relationships, and has shown these relationships will enhance the program's effectiveness.

ii. Applicants has established past working relationships with state or local agencies or private entities which have provided services like those offered by the program.

D. VA will award up to 10 points (an applicant must score a minimum of 5 points) based on the innovative aspects of the program, as demonstrated by the following:

i. How the program will identify and serve Veterans who otherwise would be unable to obtain care.

ii. How the program will utilize or integrate existing public resources (VA, state, county, or other).

Initial Grant Selection: VA will use the following process to award initial grants:

1. VA will rank those applications who receive at least the minimum amount of total points (50) and points per category set forth in this Notice. The applications will be ranked in order from highest to lowest scores.

2. VA will use the grantee's ranking as the basis for selection for funding. VA will fund the highest ranked grantees for which funding is available.

Note: There is a separate NOFO for renewal applications.

Merit Review Panel Information: VA is committed to ensuring a fair and open process for awarding these grants. The VTP Office will review the grant application to make sure

the information presented is specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound, as well as consistent with the solicitation. Peer reviewers will conduct a threshold review of all applications submitted under this solicitation to ensure they meet all the critical elements, and all other minimum requirements as identified herein. The VTP Office may use either internal peer reviewers, external peer reviewers, or a combination to review the applications under this solicitation. An external peer reviewer is an expert in the field of the subject matter of a given solicitation who is NOT a current VA employee. An internal reviewer is a current VA employee who is well-versed or has expertise in the subject matter of this solicitation. Eligible applications will then be evaluated, scored, and rated by a peer review panel. Peer reviewers' ratings and any resulting recommendations are advisory only.

Risk Review: As required by 2 CFR 200.206, the agency will review risk posed by applicants. Prior to the award, the agency will review eligibility and financial integrity for applicants in OMB databases per the Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019 (Pub. L. 116-117) and the Do Not Pay Initiative (31 U.S.C. 3354 and 41 U.S.C. 2313). In addition, the agency will review applicant records in Sam.gov prior to making any award.

Section VII: Award Notices

Information on the Authorizing Document: After an applicant is selected for a grant in accordance with 38 CFR 17.705(b), VA will draft a grant agreement with the grantee. Upon execution of the grant agreement, VA will obligate the approved amount. The grant agreement will provide:

1. The grantee must operate the program in accordance with the provisions

of this section and the grant application.

2. If a grantee's application identified a sub-recipient, such sub-recipient must operate the program in accordance with the provisions of this section and the grant application; and

3. If a grantee's application identified funds will be used to procure or operate vehicles to directly provide transportation services, the following requirements must be met:

A. Title to the vehicles must vest solely in the grantee or in the identified sub-recipient or with leased vehicles in an identified lender;

B. The grantee or identified sub-recipient must, at a minimum, provide motor vehicle liability insurance for the vehicles to the same extent they would ensure vehicles procured with their own funds;

C. All vehicle operators must be licensed in a U.S. State or Territory to operate such vehicles;

D. Vehicles must be safe and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations; and

E. Vehicles must be operated in accordance with applicable Department of Transportation regulations concerning transit requirements under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Successful applicants will receive a Notice of Award (NoA) signed and dated by the VTP Office that will set forth the amount of the award and other pertinent information. The NoA is the legal document/instrument issued to notify the awardee that an award has been made and funds may be requested. It will also include standard

terms and conditions related to participation in the Program.

The NoA will be electronically sent to the awardee organization as listed on its SF424. Note any communication between the VTP Office and awardees prior to the issuance of the NoA is not authorization to begin performance on the project.

The successful applicants selected for awards must agree to comply with additional applicable legal requirements upon acceptance of an award. (VA strongly encourages applicants to review the information pertaining to these additional requirements prior to applying). The Common Rule is codified at 2 CFR part 200. Thus, grantees and identified sub-recipients awarded grants under the Program must agree as part of their grant agreement to comply with all requirements of the Common Rule, as applicable.

By accepting the agreement, the recipient, and its executives, as defined in 2 CFR 170.300, certify that the recipient's policies are in accordance with OMB guidance located at 2 CFR part 200, all applicable Federal laws, and relevant Executive guidance, especially:

- President's September 2, 2020, memorandum, entitled *Memorandum on Reviewing Funding to State and Local Government Recipients of Federal Funds that Are Permitting Anarchy, Violence, and Destruction in American Cities*;
- *Executive Order on Combating Race and Sex Stereotyping* (E.O. 13950);
- *Executive Order on Protecting American Monuments, Memorials, and Statues and Combating Recent Criminal Violence* (E.O. 13933); and
- Guidance for Grants and Agreements in Title 2, CFR, as updated in the Federal Register 85 FR 49506 on August 13, 2020, particularly on:

- Prohibiting the purchase of certain telecommunication and video surveillance services or equipment in alignment with section 889 of the national Defense Authorization Act of 2019 (Pub. L. No. 115—232) (2 CFR 200.216),
- Promoting the freedom of speech and religious liberty in alignment with *Promoting Free Speech and Religious Liberty* (E.O. 13798) and *Improving Free Inquiry, Transparency, and Accountability at Colleges and Universities* (E.O. 13864) (2 CFR 200.300, 200.303, 200.339, and 200.341),
- Providing a preference, to the extent permitted by law, to maximize use of goods, products, and materials produced in the United States (2 CFR part 200.322), and
- Terminating agreements in whole or in part to the greatest extent authorized by law if an award no longer effectuates the program goals or agency priorities (2 CFR part 200.340).

Recipients will use the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Payment Management System for grant drawdowns. Instructions for submitting requests for payment may be found at <https://pms.psc.gov>.

Notice to Unsuccessful Applicants: Unsuccessful applicants will be notified of their status electronically to the applicant organization as listed on its SF424.

Section VIII: Post-Award Requirements and Administration

Administrative and National Policy Requirements: VTP is responsible for program monitoring of all selected awardees. All awardees will be required to cooperate in providing the necessary data elements to VTP. The goal of program monitoring is to

ensure program requirements are met; this will be accomplished by tracking performance and identifying quality and compliance problems through early detection. Methods of program monitoring may include monitoring the performance of a grantees or sub-recipient's personnel, procurements, and/or use of grant-funded property; collecting, analyzing data, and assessing program implementation and effectiveness; assessing costs and utilization; and providing technical assistance when needed. Site visit monitoring will include the above-described activities, in addition to the conduct of safety assessments and, if applicable, verification of both current driver's licenses and vehicle insurance coverage.

Federal Financial Report (FFR): Awardees are required to submit the FFR SF425 on an annual basis. More details will be announced in the NoA. The FFR SF425 is available at grants.gov/forms/forms-repository/post-award-reporting-forms.

Audit Requirements: Awardees must comply with the audit requirements OMB Uniform Guidance 2 CFR part 200 subpart F. Information on the scope, frequency, and other aspects of the audits can be found on the internet at Federal Register: Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards.

Additionally, awardees must notify VA if they fall within the requirements of the Financial Management Risk Reduction Act enacted on December 23, 2024, (Pub. L. 118-207).

Program Variations: Any changes in a grantee's program activities which result in deviations from the grant agreement must be reported to VA.

Reporting Requirements: All grantees will be required to submit progress reports

throughout the period of performance detailing progress toward meeting grant objectives stated in the originally submitted proposal and in the Federal Grant Award Notification documents. Reporting and monitoring cadence and rigor are determined by a grantee's level of risk. A sample reporting schedule may include submission of bi-weekly, monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly, or annual reports. Report submission may also require the use of a designated software by the VTP Program Office.

Awardees must agree to cooperate with any VA evaluation of the program and provide required monthly, quarterly, annual, and final (at the end of the fiscal year) reports in a form prescribed by VTP. A final report consists of a summation of grant activities which include progress toward goals, financial administration of grant funds, and grant administration issues and barriers. Reports are to be submitted electronically. These reports must outline how grant funds were used, describe program progress and barriers, changes in personnel, other relevant grant activities, and progress toward measurable outcomes.

At a minimum, reports must include the following information:

- Veteran data and trip details;
- Record of time expended assisting with the provision of transportation services;
- Record of grant funds expended assisting with the provision of transportation services;
- Trips completed;
- Total distance covered;
- Veterans served;

- Locations which received transportation services; and
- Results of Veteran satisfaction survey, as applicable.

Additional Post Award Reporting: VA may request additional reporting requirements allow VA to fully assess program effectiveness. Applicants should anticipate all recipients (excluding an individual recipient of Federal assistance) of awards of \$25,000 or more under this solicitation, consistent with the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA), Pub. L. 109-282 (September 26, 2006) will be required to report award information on the subaward reporting system of any first-tier subawards totaling \$25,000 or more, and, in certain cases, to report information on the names and total compensation of the five most highly compensated executives of the recipient and first-tier sub-recipients. Each applicant entity must ensure it has the necessary processes and systems in place to comply with the reporting requirements should it receive funding.

It is expected that reports regarding subawards will be made through the FFATA Subaward Reporting System (FSRS) found at www.fsrs.gov. The FFATA FSRS is the reporting tool Federal prime awardees (i.e., prime contractors and prime grants recipients) use to capture and report subaward and executive compensation data regarding their first-tier subawards to meet the FFATA reporting requirements. Prime contract awardees will report against sub-contracts awarded and prime grant awardees will report against sub-grants awarded. Prime Contractors awarded a Federal contract or order subject to Federal Acquisition Regulation clause 52.204-10 (Reporting Executive Compensation and First-Tier Subcontract Awards) are required to file a FFATA subaward report by the end of the month following the month in which the prime

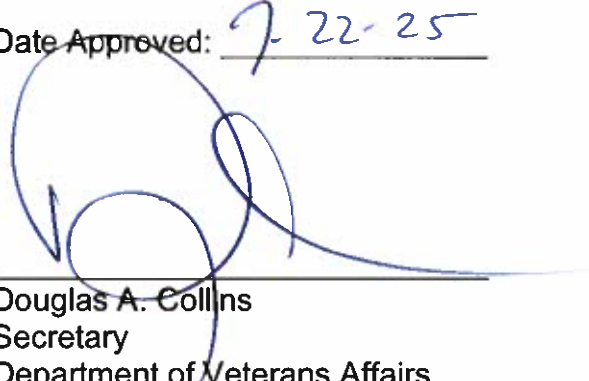
contractor awards any subcontract greater than \$25,000.

Please also note applicants should anticipate no subaward of an award made under this solicitation may be made to a sub-recipient subject to the terms of FFATA unless the potential sub-recipient acquires and provides a Unique Entity Identifier number.

Section IX: Other Information

Pursuant to 38 CFR 17.730(a), VA may recover from the grantee any funds not used in accordance with a grant agreement. VA will issue to the grantee a notice of intent to recover grant funds, if VA decides to recover funds, and the grantee will then have 30 days to submit documentation demonstrating why the grant funds should not be recovered. VA will determine whether action will be taken to recover the grant funds after review of all submitted documentation. The grantee is then prohibited under 38 CFR 17.730(b) from receipt of any further grant funds when VA determines action will be taken to recover grant funds from the grantee.

Date Approved: 7-22-25



Douglas A. Collins
Secretary
Department of Veterans Affairs