**Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs**

**Grants for Veterans’ Services (GVS)**

**Solicitation**

April 01, 2024



**Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs Grants for Veterans’ Services (GVS) Solicitation**

**Solicitation Release Date: April 01, 2024**

**Application Deadline: May 15, 2024, at 5:00 PM EST**

**Grant Period of Performance: July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025**

The Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs is seeking applications for the Grants for Veterans’ Services program. This solicitation is open to non-profit organizations registered with the Indiana Secretary of State.

The grant amounts will be between $10,000 and $75,000 depending on each applicant’s need for funds, the availability of funding, and the volume of eligible applicants.

All applications, procedures, and documentation should follow the Indiana Code, Indiana Administrative Code, and Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs’ policies.

**Grant applications must be submitted online.**

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# **Important Dates**

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| --- | --- |
| **Steps in Process** | **Date** |
| Grant Solicitation Release | 04/01/2024 |
| Grant Q&A Session 1 | 04/10/2024 at 11:00 AM EST |
| Grant Q&A Session 2 | 05/01/2024 at 11:00 AM EST |
| Grant Applications Due | 05/15/2024 at 5:00 PM EST |
| Grant Scoring Complete | 05/22/2024 |
| Award Notices Sent | 05/24/2024 |
| Revised Budgets and Project Narratives Due | 05/31/2024 |
| Grant Period of Performance Starts | 07/01/2024 |

Dates may be subject to change at the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs discretion.

# **Definitions**

* **"Grant for Veterans’ Services" means a grant made to a qualified entity under IC 10-17-13.5-4.** *(Indiana Veterans' Affairs Commission; 915 IAC 1-1-3)*
* **"Homelessness" means the state of being homeless, as defined by 42 U.S.C. 11302(a).** *(Indiana Department of Veterans’ Affairs; 914 IAC 1-1-4)*
* **"Job search assistance" means training, education, coaching, or other assistance designed to help a veteran find stable, long-term employment. It includes assistance with interview techniques, resume writing, or verbal communications skills.** *(Indiana Department of Veterans’ Affairs; 914 IAC 1-1-5)*
* **"Near-term homelessness" means a circumstance when a veteran experiences an unforeseen event that is highly likely to result in homelessness within forty-five (45) days of the event occurring.** *(Indiana Department of Veterans’ Affairs; 914 IAC 1-1-6)*
* **"On-the-job training" means training or education designed to help a veteran enhance his or her skills and knowledge to help the veteran increase his or her compensation or be promoted to a higher position within the veteran's current employment. It can include on-site employment enhancement services.** *(Indiana Department of Veterans’ Affairs; 914 IAC 1-1-7)*
* **"Public housing assistance program" means a federal, state, or local program that provides housing, or money to defray the costs of housing, to individuals or families.** *(Indiana Department of Veterans’ Affairs; 914 IAC 1-1-8)*
* **"Safe and secure living conditions" means stable housing that can be reasonably assumed to establish conditions that will keep the veteran free from harm and is capable of providing a long-term residence for the veteran to live independently or with required assistance.** *(Indiana Department of Veterans’ Affairs; 914 IAC 1-1-10)*
* **"Stable, long term rental status" means a state where a veteran secures rental housing that is reasonably likely to provide safe and secure living conditions for at least one (1) year.** *(Indiana Department of Veterans’ Affairs; 914 IAC 1-1-11)*
* **"Therapeutic services" means services designed to assist a veteran with physiological, psychological, physical, or relational needs. These services may include, but are not limited to the following:**

1. **Personal, marital, or family counseling.**
2. **Integration assistance for placement into on-site substance abuse counseling, which does not provide medication.**
3. **Meditation, yoga, and other nontraditional means of counseling that the approved organization already has established in its reintegration programs.** *(Indiana Department of Veterans’ Affairs; 914 IAC 1-1-12)*

# **Eligibility and Purpose**

An eligible applicant is an organization that meets the definitions set forth in the Indiana Code (*Appendix B*).

* The organization must be exempt from taxation under Section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code.
* The organization must be a nonprofit organization.
* The organization must provide veterans’ services described in IC 10-17-13.5-4(a) (*Appendix B*).
* The organization must be financially able to provide the services proposed in its application and must be able to utilize or obligate the grant funds during the grant year.
* The organization must follow all state and federal laws and be free of liabilities to the state of Indiana.
* The organization must be registered with the Indiana Secretary of State.

Grants for Veterans’ Services awards may only be used to provide services to veterans who meet all the following criteria:

* The veteran receiving services must reside in the state of Indiana, and
* A veteran receiving services must satisfy all the criteria set forth in 914 IAC 1-3-2 as evidenced by the veteran's Department of Defense Form 214 (DD-214), National Guard Bureau (NGB) Form 22 as issued by the United States Department of Defense, or other official discharge papers.

Grants for Veterans’ Services may be utilized for the purpose of providing services to veterans, including the following:

* Programs focused on eliminating homelessness, preventing near-term homelessness, and providing safe and secure living conditions.
* Assisting veterans in moving from public housing assistance programs to:
  + home ownership; or
  + stable, long-term rental status.
* Assisting veterans in finding and using available federal and state resources.
* Providing therapeutic services.
* Providing job training and job search assistance.
* Preventing veteran suicide.

# **Application Process**

Applicants must submit:

* A completed Application for Grants for Veterans’ Services.
* A detailed explanation of the organization's mission, activities, and membership.
* A detailed description of all the services provided to veterans by the organization and a detailed explanation of how those services align with the services described in IC 10-17-13.5-4(a).
* A detailed statement, describing the organization's need for a grant, a description of the services in section 4 of this rule that the organization will provide to veterans with the grant for veterans' services, and evidence that the organization can address the need it intends to address with the grant if awarded a grant.
* A set of performance indicators that the organization will use to measure the effectiveness of the services it will provide using the grant and a detailed description of how those performance indicators will be measured, the data that will be used, and the benchmarks for success.
* Copies of the organization’s articles of incorporation and bylaws.
* A letter from the Internal Revenue Service affirming the organization's tax-exempt status under Section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code.
* Audited financial statements of the organization from an independent auditor for the last three (3) years or the life of the organization, whichever is shorter.
* Organization’s federal and state tax returns for the last three (3) years or the life of the organization, whichever is shorter.
* A detailed work plan, including the scope of the services offered, and the target population. This shall serve as your Project Narrative which will be attached to the grant agreement as Exhibit A and should not exceed ten (10) pages.
* A detailed line-item budget proposal describing how any grant funds will be used.

# **Grant Award**

An organization that is awarded a grant shall not receive any funding until a grant agreement is fully executed by all requisite state agencies.

# **Allowable & Unallowable Costs**

Allowable costs are costs necessary and reasonable to perform the program. All costs associated with the proposed program shall be included in the organization’s grant proposal budget as Exhibit B. Allowable costs include, but are not limited to:

* Personnel costs (including wages, salary, and benefits)
* Travel costs
* Supplies
* Operating expenses
* Direct service to veterans
* Equipment
* Virtual engagement materials.

Unallowable costs are costs that do not further the program purpose or contribute to the successful operation of the program. Any unallowable costs will be denied. Unallowable costs include, but are not limited to:

* Capital improvements
* The purchasing or acquisition of real estate
* Gifts or donations to other organizations
* Alcohol
* Fundraising
* Lobbying activities.

If a grantee needs a budget modification during the grant period, the grantee must submit that request in writing. The budget modification must be approved by the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs prior to the grantee implementing the modification.

Any grantees who receive an award for direct assistance to veterans must coordinate with the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs’ Military Family Relief Fund prior to providing the direct assistance. This partnership will ensure non-duplication of efforts and allow a greater scope of resources.

# **Reporting**

All grantees are required to do the following:

* Account for all grant funds received under this program using generally accepted accounting principles. A grantee shall track all assets, expenses, cost of goods, and use of funds.
* Any purchases of supplies or equipment for $1,000 or more, purchased with monies from the grant, must be given an asset tag. Assets must be clearly marked as Property of the State of Indiana, Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs. Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs must be notified if the grantee, at any time wishes to sell, dispose of, or donate said asset. Approval from the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs is required prior to the disposition of any asset. Asset tags will be provided by the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs and are subject to audit verification.
* Submit **monthly or** **quarterly** financial reports to the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs detailing all grant-related expenditures.
* Submit a comprehensive financial report of the grant at the end of the grant period.
* Submit **monthly or** **quarterly** programmatic reports to the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs detailing all grant-related programmatic successes.
* Submit a detailed performance report at the end of the grant period of performance detailing the outcomes achieved by the organization awarded the grant. The report must include the performance data and metrics identified in the original grant application. The report must also include a detailed analysis comparing the outcomes achieved to the benchmarks for success identified in the grant application.

Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs hosts quarterly meetings for all its grantees. At least one representative of the organization must attend, either virtually or in person. The grantees’ quarterly training will be conducted by the grant administrator and/or general counsel.

As it deems necessary, the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs may audit or inspect all books, accounting records, or other documents related to the grant at any time. The Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs may require a grantee, at the grantee's expense, to obtain an independent audit from an auditor approved by the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs.

## **Noncompliance**

If the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs determines that a grantee is not in compliance with the terms of the grant agreement or has failed to maintain compliance with the eligibility requirements of 914 IAC 1, IC 10-17-13.5, or Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs policies, the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs shall terminate the grant agreement and notify the grantee in writing. A grantee whose grant has been terminated for noncompliance is not eligible to reapply for any grants awarded by the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs for a period of twelve (12) months from the date of termination of the agreement.

If it is determined that any funds paid to the grantee were inappropriate and/or due to the grantee’s non-compliance, those funds shall be returned to the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs.

## **Unobligated Funds**

Any funds not obligated within the performance period will be unavailable to the grantee.

# **Appendix A**

**TITLE 914 INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

**ARTICLE 1. GRANTS FOR VETERANS' SERVICES**

Rule 1. Definitions

Rule 2. Application Procedure

Rule 3. Eligibility Criteria

Rule 4. Selection Procedures

Rule 5. Department Oversight and Verification of Use of Funds Received by Qualified Entities

**Rule 1. Definitions**

914 IAC 1-1-1 Applicability

914 IAC 1-1-2 "Department" defined

914 IAC 1-1-3 "Grant for veterans' services" defined

914 IAC 1-1-4 "Homelessness" defined

914 IAC 1-1-5 "Job search assistance" defined

914 IAC 1-1-6 "Near-term homelessness" defined

914 IAC 1-1-7 "On-the-job training" defined

914 IAC 1-1-8 "Public housing assistance program" defined

914 IAC 1-1-9 "Qualified entity" defined

914 IAC 1-1-10 "Safe and secure living conditions" defined

914 IAC 1-1-11 "Stable, long term rental status" defined

914 IAC 1-1-12 "Therapeutic services" defined

914 IAC 1-1-13 "Veteran" defined

**914 IAC 1-1-1 Applicability**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5

Sec. 1. The definitions in this rule apply throughout this article. *(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-1-1; filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA)*

**914 IAC 1-1-2 "Department" defined**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5

Sec. 2. "Department" means the Indiana department of veterans' affairs. *(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-1-2; filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA)*

**914 IAC 1-1-3 "Grant for veterans' services" defined**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5

Sec. 3. "Grant for veterans' services" means a grant made to a qualified entity under IC 10-17-13.5-4. *(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-1-3; filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA)*

**914 IAC 1-1-4 "Homelessness" defined**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5-4

Sec. 4. "Homelessness" means the state of being homeless, as defined by 42 U.S.C. 11302(a). *(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-1-4; filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA)*

**914 IAC 1-1-5 "Job search assistance" defined**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5-4

Sec. 5. "Job search assistance" means training, education, coaching, or other assistance designed to help a veteran find stable, long-term employment. It includes assistance with interview techniques, resume writing, or verbal communications skills. *(Indiana* *Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-1-5; filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA)*

**914 IAC 1-1-6 "Near-term homelessness" defined**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5-4

Sec. 6. "Near-term homelessness" means a circumstance when a veteran experiences an unforeseen event that is highly likely to result in homelessness within forty-five (45) days of the event occurring. *(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-1-6;*

*filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA)*

**914 IAC 1-1-7 "On-the-job training" defined**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5-4

Sec. 7. "On-the-job training" means training or education designed to help a veteran enhance his or her skills and knowledge to help the veteran increase his or her compensation or be promoted to a higher position within the veteran's current employment. It can include on-site employment enhancement services. *(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-1-7; filed Aug 21,* *2019, 4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA)*

**914 IAC 1-1-8 "Public housing assistance program" defined**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5-4

Sec. 8. "Public housing assistance program" means a federal, state, or local program that provides housing, or money to defray the costs of housing, to individuals or families. *(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-1-8; filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08* *p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA)*

**914 IAC 1-1-9 "Qualified entity" defined**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5

Sec. 9. "Qualified entity" has the meaning set forth in IC 10-17-13.5-2. *(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-1-9; filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA)*

**914 IAC 1-1-10 "Safe and secure living conditions" defined**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5-4

Sec. 10. "Safe and secure living conditions" means stable housing that can be reasonably assumed to establish conditions that will keep the veterans free from harm and is capable of providing a long-term residence for the veteran to live independently or with required assistance. *(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-1-10; filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA)*

**914 IAC 1-1-11 "Stable, long term rental status" defined**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5-4

Sec. 11. "Stable, long term rental status" means a state where a veteran secures rental housing that is reasonably likely to provide safe and secure living conditions for at least one (1) year. *(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-1-11; filed* *Aug 21, 2019, 4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA)*

**914 IAC 1-1-12 "Therapeutic services" defined**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5-4

Sec. 12. "Therapeutic services" means services designed to assist a veteran with physiological, psychological, physical, or relational needs. These services may include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) Personal, marital, or family counseling.

(2) Substance abuse counseling.

(3) Meditation, yoga, and other nontraditional means of therapy.

(4) Mental health counseling and related training.

*(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-1-12; filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA; filed May 9, 2022, 8:49 a.m.: 20220608-IR-914210423FRA)*

**914 IAC 1-1-13 "Veteran" defined**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5

Sec. 13. "Veteran" has the meaning set forth in IC 10-17-13.5-3. *(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-1-13; filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA)*

**Rule 2. Application Procedure**

914 IAC 1-2-1 Application procedure

914 IAC 1-2-2 Application for a grant for veterans' services; consideration

914 IAC 1-2-3 Organization's notification of change in application status

914 IAC 1-2-4 Organization's services to veterans

914 IAC 1-2-5 Application for a grant for veterans' services; awarding process

**914 IAC 1-2-1 Application procedure**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5-4

Sec. 1. To apply for a grant for veterans' services, an organization must submit a written application on the form prescribed by the department. The application shall include the following:

(1) The name, address, and contact information, including email address, of the organization.

(2) The name, address, and contact information of the chief executive officer or the chief financial officer of the organization.

(3) A detailed explanation of the organization's mission and activities.

(4) A detailed description of all of the services provided to veterans by the organization and a detailed explanation of how those services align with the services described in IC 10-17-13.5-4(a).

(5) Audited financial statements of the organization for the last three (3) years or the life of the organization, whichever is less. If audited financial statements are not available, financial statements of the organization for the last three (3) years or the life of the organization, whichever is less.

(6) The organization's federal and state tax returns for the last three (3) years or the life of the organization, whichever is less.

(7) A detailed statement, describing the organization's need for a grant, a description of the services in section 4 of this rule that the organization will provide to veterans with the grant for veterans' services, and evidence that the organization is capable of addressing the need it intends to address with the grant if awarded a grant.

(8) A set of performance indicators that the organization will use to measure the effectiveness of the services it will provide using the grant and a detailed description of how those performance indicators will be measured, the data that will be used, and the benchmarks for success.

(9) A detailed work plan, including the scope of the services offered to veterans and the population of focus for such services.

(10) A detailed line-item budget proposal describing how any grant funds will be used.

(11) A letter from the Internal Revenue Service affirming the organization's tax-exempt status under Section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code.

(12) The name, title, and signature of the chief executive officer or chief financial officer of the organization, attesting that all information submitted in the application is true and accurate.

*(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-2-1; filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA; filed May 9, 2022, 8:49 a.m.: 20220608-IR-914210423FRA)*

**914 IAC 1-2-2 Application for a grant for veterans' services; consideration**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5

Sec. 2. An application may not be considered until all required documents have been received by the department. The department may deny an incomplete application. A qualified entity may submit a new application if a prior application is denied.

*(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-2-2; filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA; filed May 9, 2022, 8:49 a.m.: 20220608-IR-914210423FRA)*

**914 IAC 1-2-3 Organization's notification of change in application status**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5

Sec. 3. A qualified entity shall notify the department of any changes in the application information in writing within ten (10) days of the change. The department may revoke a qualified entity's eligibility for a grant for veterans' services if the changes affect the applicant's eligibility for a grant and require the qualified entity to submit a new application based on any changes to the information submitted in the prior application. *(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-2-3; filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08* *p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA)*

**914 IAC 1-2-4 Organization's services to veterans**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5

Sec. 4. The organization must provide one (1) of the following services to veterans:

(1) A program focused on eliminating homelessness.

(2) A program focused on preventing near-term homelessness.

(3) A program focused on providing safe and secure living conditions.

(4) Assisting veterans in moving from public housing assistance programs, both federal and state, while transitioning toward:

(A) home ownership; or

(B) stable, long term rental status.

(5) Assisting veterans in finding and using available federal and state resources.

(6) Providing therapeutic services.

(7) Providing on-the-job training and job search assistance.

*(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-2-4; filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA; filed May 9, 2022, 8:49 a.m.: 20220608-IR-914210423FRA)*

**914 IAC 1-2-5 Application for a grant for veterans' services; awarding process**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 4-21.5-3; IC 10-17-13.5

Sec. 5. The grant award period shall be prescribed in the grant solicitation. The grant award period will not exceed two (2) years. The applications for grants for veterans' services process is as follows:

(1) The department shall notify applicants in writing whether the applicant will receive a grant. If an applicant is awarded a grant, the notice shall specify the amount of the grant, the duration of the grant, and the performance indicators that the award recipient shall use to measure the effectiveness of the services provided using the grant. If the department denies an application for a grant award, the notice shall include the department's determination, the reasons the application was denied, and a description of the applicant's right to appeal the determination.

(2) An applicant whose application for a grant is denied may appeal the decision by filing a written notice of appeal with the department within fifteen (15) days of receiving notice of the denial.

*(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-2-5; filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA; filed May 9, 2022, 8:49 a.m.: 20220608-IR-914210423FRA)*

**Rule 3. Eligibility Criteria**

914 IAC 1-3-1 Eligibility criteria and organization expectations

914 IAC 1-3-2 Application for a grant for veterans' services; veteran eligibility

**914 IAC 1-3-1 Eligibility criteria and organization expectations**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5-4

Sec. 1. To be eligible to receive a grant for veterans' services, an organization must meet the following requirements:

(1) The organization must be exempt from taxation under Section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code.

(2) The organization must be a nonprofit organization.

(3) The organization must provide to veterans services described in IC 10-17-13.5-4(a).

(4) The organization must be financially able to provide the services proposed in its application and must be able to utilize the grant funds during the grant period of performance.

(5) The organization must be in compliance with all state and federal laws and taxes.

*(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-3-1; filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA; filed May 9, 2022, 8:49 a.m.: 20220608-IR-914210423FRA)*

**914 IAC 1-3-2 Application for a grant for veterans' services; veteran eligibility**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-12-2; IC 10-17-13.5-3

Sec. 2. A grant for veteran services may only be used to provide services to veterans who satisfy all of the following criteria:

(1) The veteran receiving services must reside in the state of Indiana.

(2) The veteran receiving services must have served in any branch of the United States armed forces or their reserves, in the national guard, or in the Indiana National Guard as defined in IC 10-17-13.5-3.

(3) The veteran receiving services must not have received a dishonorable discharge as evidenced by the veteran's Department of Defense Form 214, National Guard Bureau (NGB) Form 22 as issued by the United States Department of Defense, or other official discharge papers.

*(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-3-2; filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA; filed May 9, 2022, 8:49 a.m.: 20220608-IR-914210423FRA)*

**Rule 4. Selection Procedures**

914 IAC 1-4-1 Selection procedures and point grading system

914 IAC 1-4-2 Department's organization point grading system

914 IAC 1-4-3 Department's point awarding to organization

914 IAC 1-4-4 Department and organization's agreement

914 IAC 1-4-5 Withdrawal or future ineligibility of organization to receive a grant for veterans' services

**914 IAC 1-4-1 Selection procedures and point grading system**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5

Sec. 1. An application that meets the eligibility criteria set forth in 914 IAC 1-3 shall be assessed using the selection procedures specified in this rule. The department retains the right to determine each grant award at its discretion. In determining the amount of a particular grant, the department shall consider the need for services in the geographic area where the award recipient intends to offer services. *(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-4-1; filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA)*

**914 IAC 1-4-2 Department's organization point grading system**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5

Sec. 2. The department shall make a determination on selection of applicants based on a point grading system. The department shall award points for each factor as follows:

(1) The applicant shall be appointed a number between zero (0) and five (5) based on the revenue generated by the organization. The higher the revenue, the lower the score, and vice versa. The points for this section of the grading system are as follows:

(A) 0 points: Extreme revenue of $500,000 or more

(B) 1 point: High revenue of $400,000 to $499,999

(C) 2 points: Above average revenue of $300,000 to $399,999

(D) 3 points: Average revenue of $200,000 to $299,999

(E) 4 points: Below average revenue of $100,000 to $199,999

(F) 5 points: Little to no revenue up to $99,999

(2) The organization shall be appointed a number between zero (0) and five (5) indicating geographic diversity and the need for services. Points are awarded based on the needs of the area the organization is serving. The more underserved the population the organization is serving and the needier the population is, the higher the points. The points for this section of the grading system are as follows:

(A) 5 points: Candidate works in an underserved population with high needs.

(B) 3-4 points: Candidate does not work in underserved population, but there is a high need for services.

(C) 1-2 points: Candidate works in a highly served and low need population.

(3) For applicants that have previously received a grant for veterans' services, performance will be based, in part, on the performance indicators used for that grant. Applicants that have not previously received a grant should provide performance data for their programs and services, including any data relating to the services proposed for grant funding. The points for this section of the grading system are as follows:

(A) 5 points: Excellent program performance as demonstrated by verifiable data.

(B) 4 points: Good program performance as demonstrated by verifiable data.

(C) 3 points: Average program performance as demonstrated by verifiable data.

(D) 2 points: Below average program performance as demonstrated by verifiable data.

(E) 0-1 points: Poor program performance as demonstrated by verifiable data or incomplete performance data provided.

*(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-4-2; filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA)*

**914 IAC 1-4-3 Department's point awarding to organization**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5

Sec. 3. The applicants receiving the most points under the point grading system shall be given priority for grants, subject to available funding. In the event that funds have become limited, and two (2) or more organizations receive the same amount of points, the department shall consider the following in addition to the points awarded under the point grading system:

(1) Letters of support on behalf of the qualified entity.

(2) Further examination of the key performance indicators outlined in section 2 of this rule.

(3) Extent to which a qualified entity has used assistance available from other assistance programs and sources such as donations, previous grants awarded for similar services, gifts, bequests, and appropriations.

*(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-4-3; filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA)*

**914 IAC 1-4-4 Department and organization's agreement**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5

Sec. 4. Applicants selected to receive grant awards must submit a signed grant agreement to the department before any funds can be released. *(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-4-4; filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA)*

**914 IAC 1-4-5 Withdrawal or future ineligibility of organization to receive a grant for veterans' services**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5

Sec. 5. If a grant recipient withdraws from, or declines a grant award, or the department determines that a grant recipient is no longer eligible to receive a grant award, the department may award the funds to the applicant receiving the next highest amount of points under the point grading system who was not selected originally. *(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-4-5;* *filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA)*

**Rule 5. Department Oversight and Verification of Use of Funds Received by Qualified Entities**

914 IAC 1-5-1 Department oversight and verification of use of funds received by qualified entities

914 IAC 1-5-2 Performance reporting

914 IAC 1-5-3 Noncompliance of terms of grant agreement

914 IAC 1-5-4 Unobligated funds from a grant for veterans' services

914 IAC 1-5-5 Failure to comply with requirements of this article or grant agreement

**914 IAC 1-5-1 Department oversight and verification of use of funds received by qualified entities**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5

Sec. 1. (a) A grantee shall account for all grant funds received under this program using generally accepted accounting principles. A grantee shall track all assets, expenses, cost of goods, and use of funds.

(b) A grantee shall submit monthly or quarterly financial reports to the department that detail how grant funds have been spent. A grantee shall also submit a comprehensive financial report of the grant at the end of the grant period. Financial reports shall utilize the department's model report.

(c) The department will create a model for the approved organization to utilize for case management and financial reviews.

(d) As it deems necessary, the department may audit or inspect any and all books, accounting records, or other documents related to the grant at any time. The department may require a grantee, at grantee's expense, to obtain an independent audit from an auditor approved by the department. *(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-5-1; filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08 p.m.:* *20190918-IR-914180475FRA; filed May 9, 2022, 8:49 a.m.: 20220608-IR-914210423FRA)*

**914 IAC 1-5-2 Performance reporting**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5

Sec. 2. A grantee shall submit a detailed performance report at the end of the grant period detailing the outcomes achieved by the organization using the grant. The report must include the performance data and metrics identified in the grant application. The report must also include a detailed analysis comparing the outcomes achieved to the benchmarks for success identified in the grant application. *(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-5-2; filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA)*

**914 IAC 1-5-3 Noncompliance of terms of grant agreement**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5

Sec. 3. If the department determines that a grantee is not in compliance with the terms of the grant agreement or has failed to maintain compliance with the eligibility requirements of this rule or IC 10-17-13.5, the department shall terminate the agreement and notify the grantee in writing. A grantee that has been terminated for noncompliance is not eligible to reapply for any grants provided by the department for a period of twelve (12) months from the date of termination of the agreement. *(Indiana Department of Veterans'* *Affairs; 914 IAC 1-5-3; filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA)*

**914 IAC 1-5-4 Unobligated funds from a grant for veterans' services**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5

Sec. 4. All funds that are not obligated within the one (1) year time period shall be returned to the department. *(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-5-4; filed Aug 21, 2019, 4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA)*

**914 IAC 1-5-5 Failure to comply with requirements of this article or grant agreement**

Authority: IC 10-17-13.5-5

Affected: IC 10-17-13.5

Sec. 5. A grantee that fails to comply with the requirements of this article or the grant agreement may be deemed ineligible to receive funding through any other department grant. *(Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs; 914 IAC 1-5-5; filed Aug 21, 2019,* *4:08 p.m.: 20190918-IR-914180475FRA)*

# **Appendix B**

**IC 10-17-13.5 Chapter 13.5. Grants for Veterans' Services**

[10-17-13.5-1](https://iga.in.gov/laws/2023/ic/titles/10#10-17-13.5-1) "Department"

[10-17-13.5-2](https://iga.in.gov/laws/2023/ic/titles/10#10-17-13.5-2) "Qualified entity"

[10-17-13.5-3](https://iga.in.gov/laws/2023/ic/titles/10#10-17-13.5-3) "Veteran"

[10-17-13.5-4](https://iga.in.gov/laws/2023/ic/titles/10#10-17-13.5-4) Grants to qualified entities; purposes

[10-17-13.5-5](https://iga.in.gov/laws/2023/ic/titles/10#10-17-13.5-5) Rules required

[10-17-13.5-6](https://iga.in.gov/laws/2023/ic/titles/10#10-17-13.5-6) Diagnostic testing and hyperbaric oxygen treatment pilot program; expiration June 30, 2025

[10-17-13.5-7](https://iga.in.gov/laws/2023/ic/titles/10#10-17-13.5-7) Immunity

**IC 10-17-13.5-1 "Department"**

     Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "department" refers to the Indiana department of veterans' affairs established by [IC 10-17-1-2](https://iga.in.gov/laws/2023/ic/titles/10#10-17-1-2).

*As added by P.L.217-2017, SEC.76.*

**IC 10-17-13.5-2 "Qualified entity"**

     Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "qualified entity" means an entity that provides services to veterans and is exempt from taxation under Section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code.

*As added by P.L.217-2017, SEC.76.*

**IC 10-17-13.5-3 "Veteran"**

     Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "veteran" means an individual residing in Indiana who:

(1) has served in any branch of the armed forces of the United States or their reserves, in the national guard, or in the Indiana National Guard; and

(2) has received a discharge from service under honorable conditions.

*As added by P.L.217-2017, SEC.76.*

**IC 10-17-13.5-4 Grants to qualified entities; purposes**

     Sec. 4. (a) The department may make grants to qualified entities to be used for the purpose of providing services to veterans, including the following:

(1) Programs focused on eliminating homelessness, preventing near term homelessness, and providing safe and secure living conditions.

(2) Assisting veterans in moving from public housing assistance programs to:

(A) home ownership; or

(B) stable, long term rental status.

A grant under this chapter for the purpose specified in clause (B) may include up to nine (9) months of rental assistance.

(3) Assisting veterans in finding and using available federal and state resources.

(4) Providing therapeutic services.

(5) Providing job training and job search assistance.

(6) Preventing veteran suicide.

     (b) The department may make grants to the provider chosen by the Indiana department of health under section 6 of this chapter to be used for the purpose of providing assistance to the provider to provide diagnostic testing and hyperbaric oxygen treatment to veterans receiving treatment under the pilot program established under section 6 of this chapter. However, a grant under this chapter may not be awarded for the purposes specified in this subsection unless the Indiana department of health has adopted the rules required by section 6(g) of this chapter. In addition, a grant may not be awarded for the purposes specified in this subsection after the expiration of the pilot program established under section 6 of this chapter.

*As added by P.L.217-2017, SEC.76. Amended by P.L.155-2018, SEC.2; P.L.56-2023, SEC.74; P.L.61-2023, SEC.6.*

**IC 10-17-13.5-5 Rules required**

     Sec. 5. The department shall adopt rules under [IC 4-22-2](https://iga.in.gov/laws/2023/ic/titles/10#4-22-2) for the provision of grants under this chapter. The rules adopted under this section must address the following:

(1) Application procedures.

(2) Eligibility criteria.

(3) Selection procedures.

(4) A consideration of the extent to which a qualified entity has used assistance available from other assistance programs before assistance may be provided to the qualified entity from the fund.

(5) Department oversight and verification of use of funds received by qualified entities.

(6) Other areas in which the department determines that rules are necessary to ensure the uniform administration of the grant program under this chapter.

*As added by P.L.217-2017, SEC.76.*

**IC 10-17-13.5-6 Diagnostic testing and hyperbaric oxygen treatment pilot program; expiration June 30, 2025**

     Sec. 6. (a) As used in this section, "hyperbaric oxygen treatment" means treatment for traumatic brain injury or posttraumatic stress disorder that is ordered by a health care provider and delivered in a hyperbaric chamber.

(b) The department shall establish a pilot program for the purpose of providing assistance for each provider that has been approved by the Indiana department of health to provide diagnostic testing and hyperbaric oxygen treatment to veterans receiving treatment under section 4(b) of this chapter.

(c) The Indiana department of health shall issue a request for proposals within Indiana to offer the treatment described in section 4(b) of this chapter.

     (d) An individual veteran is eligible to begin treatment if the service-related event that caused the traumatic brain injury or posttraumatic stress disorder is documented by a licensed physician.

     (e) An individual veteran may not be required to pay a co-pay under the pilot program.

     (f) A grant under the pilot program established under subsection (b) may be provided only to the provider chosen by the Indiana department of health to provide diagnostic testing and hyperbaric oxygen treatment to veterans.

     (g) The Indiana department of health, after consulting with the department, shall adopt rules under [IC 4-22-2](https://iga.in.gov/laws/2023/ic/titles/10#4-22-2) to implement section 4(b) of this chapter, including standards for the following:

(1) Determination by a provider that an individual is a veteran eligible for participation in the pilot program.

(2) Determination by the Indiana department of health that a provider is eligible to participate in the pilot program, including:

(A) a requirement that the provider must maintain compliance with applicable fire codes, treatment protocols, and Indiana department of health oversight; and

(B) other facility standards determined by the Indiana department of health.

(3) Treatment plan requirements, including the following:

(A) A provider's submission to the Indiana department of health, before providing hyperbaric oxygen treatment to a veteran, of a treatment plan that includes:

(i) a health care provider's prescription for hyperbaric oxygen treatment;

(ii) verification by the provider that the veteran is eligible for participation in the pilot program and voluntarily accepts treatment through the pilot program;

(iii) an estimate of the cost of the veteran's treatment; and

(iv) any other information required by the Indiana department of health.

(B) A reasonable time frame for:

(i) approval or disapproval by the Indiana department of health of a treatment plan described in clause (A); and

(ii) notice to the provider of approval or disapproval of the treatment plan.

(C) Contingent on sufficient funding available in the fund, approval of each treatment plan that meets the requirements established by the Indiana department of health under this section.

(D) The sources of funding for the estimated treatment cost for each veteran whose treatment plan is approved under this section.

(4) Criteria for approval of payment for treatment that has been verified by the Indiana department of health to have been provided under a treatment plan approved under subdivision (3), including:

(A) whether a drug or device used in the treatment plan has been approved for any purpose by the federal Food and Drug Administration; and

(B) verification of the veteran receiving the treatment, as demonstrated through:

(i) billing documentation from the provider of the hyperbaric oxygen therapy treatments; or

(ii) attendance documentation signed by the provider and treatment recipient attesting to the receipt of the prescribed treatments.

(5) Confidentiality of all individually identifiable patient information of a veteran. However, subject to the requirements of the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act and any other applicable medical record laws, all data and information from which the identity of an individual veteran cannot be reasonably ascertained must be available to the general assembly, participating institutional review boards, participating health care providers, medical researchers, and other governmental agencies.

(h) A provider under this section, including a physician who supervises treatment, shall bill the pilot program and be paid at cost out of the grant amount awarded to the provider. No providers may profit from services provided under the pilot program. Services offered under the pilot program are provided as a service to veterans.

(i) Each provider shall quarterly file a status report concerning the services provided by the provider under the pilot program with the following:

(1) The department.

(2) The Indiana department of health.

(j) At the conclusion of the pilot program, the department, in collaboration with the Indiana department of health, shall prepare a written final report and transmit it to the following:

(1) The governor.

(2) The leadership of the legislative council in electronic format under [IC 5-14-6](https://iga.in.gov/laws/2023/ic/titles/10#5-14-6).

(3) The chairperson of the house committee on veterans affairs and public safety.

(4) The chairperson of the senate committee on veterans affairs and the military.

The report required under this subsection must be made available on the department's website.

(k) This section expires June 30, 2025.

*As added by P.L.217-2017, SEC.76. Amended by P.L.155-2018, SEC.3; P.L.156-2019, SEC.1; P.L.23-2021, SEC.1; P.L.56-2023, SEC.75.*

**IC 10-17-13.5-7 Immunity**

     Sec. 7. A provider under section 6 of this chapter, including a physician who supervises treatment, is immune from civil and criminal liability for an act or omission relating to the use of hyperbaric oxygen treatment to treat a veteran under the pilot program unless the act or omission constitutes gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct.

*As added by P.L.155-2018, SEC.4.*