

Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance

Economic Services Administration | Community Services Division

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS FOR REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS IMMIGRATION-RELATED LEGAL SERVICES JULY 19, 2023

Q1: If an agency has a main office and a sub office, located in different counties and serving clients in different DSHS Regions, do we need to submit separate proposals? Or would one proposal suffice, if both locations are listed in the application? In our case we have offices and serve clients in Pierce and King Counties, currently under the same PRIME contract.

A: Please submit one proposal for the organization listing all service locations. If awarded, both offices will be under the same contract.

Q2: My understanding is that assisting Ukrainian humanitarian parole clients to apply for Employment Authorization, currently an immigration service allowed in PRIME contract, will no longer be part of this contract. Does it mean such services will not count if mentioned in the proposal, and those clients will have to be referred somewhere else, even though the agency will be a successful applicant?

A: Correct, Ukrainian humanitarian parolees (UHP) are not included as eligible group in this RFA. You can highlight your previous work and outcomes with UHPs in the proposal, and it will be counted as experience providing employment authorization services. Please do not propose new outcomes for UHP group. You are able to continue serving UHPs under current PRIME contract until September 30, 2023.

Funding for immigration-related legal services for UHPs may be made available under separate application process.

Q3: I noticed a couple of inconsistencies on page 12, question 7 of the Request for Application. It says "*Attachments A, B, D, E may be submitted in Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF*", while next sentence requires Attachment B as a Microsoft Word document. I assume Adobe PDF will not be acceptable for attachment B, Applicant Narrative?

Also, Attachment C is required as unprotected Excel file, and is listed as "*English Language Training and Education Services Annual Budget*". Would you please kindly clarify the statements above, so there is no confusion?

A: The RFA has been updated and the revised version is now posted on DSHS/ORIA web-site.

Q4: The RFP says that eligibility includes "certified victims of trafficking." Does certification include Continued Presence, which is a certification by law enforcement that the individual is a survivor of trafficking? In many cases law enforcement prefers to do a Continued Presence over a T-Certification. One reason for this preference is that if a case goes to criminal court, the narrative in the T-Visa cert becomes discoverable and can be used by the defendant.

A: To be eligible to receive services provided through the Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance, victims of trafficking must have a certification letter, eligibility letter or interim assistance letter from the ACF Office On Trafficking in Persons. Funding from this RFA may not be used to assist victims of trafficking that are not already certified.

For additional information about immigration eligibility, please refer to the following link: [Status and Documentation Requirements for the ORR Refugee Resettlement Program | The Administration for Children and Families \(hhs.gov\)](#). This link is also incorporated into the Sample Contract, page 36.