



KANSAS GOVERNOR'S GRANTS PROGRAM VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT MATCH WAIVER POLICY

The Kansas Governor's Grants Program (KGGP), the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Victim Assistance grant state administering agency, is committed to assisting as many crime victims as possible through VOCA grant funds. The requirement for VOCA projects to contribute a 20 percent match can help supplement federal funds and increase the total amount of services available to victims of crime. However, the KGGP recognizes the match can be an undue burden and limit the project's ability to meet the high demand for services to victims.

Pursuant to 24 U.S.C. Section 20103(a)(7)(B), the KGGP reviewed its match waiver policy. The KGGP reviewed the following four criteria for match waivers, as recommended by the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) (OVC Bulletin: OVC September 2021 Updated Match Waiver Approval Process):

- Practical and/or logistical obstacles to providing match;
- Local resource constraints;
- Increases to VOCA funding where local funding availability has not increased to the same degree; and
- Past ability to provide match – subgrantees typically should be expected to justify a decrease in the dollar amount of match from the prior year.

Since 2020, most of the VOCA subgrantees have struggled to provide the 20 percent match due to financial difficulties endured because of the COVID-19 pandemic and the decrease in VOCA grant funding has made it difficult to meet the high demand for victim services. Subgrantees have reported experiencing the following:

- Significant cuts to local funding sources such as city and county appropriations and the United Way limit the availability for VOCA cash match. These cuts require other funding sources to be directed toward operating costs, diverting them away from the VOCA project match;
- A significantly diminished volunteer pool, as individuals are preferring to stay at home post-pandemic; and
- High turnover rates resulting in staff vacancies directly impact the ability to commit to the required cash match contributions. This scenario limits the Subgrantees' ability to apply for VOCA funding that meets their needs. Instead, proposals would be driven by match availability, creating a cyclical impact that limits available services.

With the increased demand for services and the lagging economy, funding for victim services may not be as robust as in previous years. As a result, the KGGP will continue to offer VOCA applicants a 100 percent match waiver. Match waivers shall be requested by applicants at the

time of the VOCA application process and will be applied per VOCA grant subaward project period. The KGGP will reevaluate the match waiver policy in July 2026 and at least every two years thereafter.

The approval notification of an applicant's match waiver request will be incorporated into the grant award documents, specifically the Grant Assurances will reflect the reduced match amount based on the scope and amount of the waiver. The Analyst will forward the signed Determination Form and any accompanying documentation to the Financial Officer prior to the distribution of grant award notices. An applicant's match waiver request will only be considered if the applicant is awarded VOCA grant funds. In the event a VOCA subgrantee seeks a match waiver during the grant project period, the denial or approval of the match waiver request will be communicated to the VOCA subgrantee per the Attachment A and B templates appended to this policy.

Federal Reporting Requirements

All match waivers provided for VOCA-funded subgrant awards will be reported to OVC annually.

Public Notification

In compliance with The VOCA Fix, this policy is publicly available on the KGGP website and in the VOCA solicitations.

This match waiver policy supersedes previous policies.



Policy Approved by KGGP Administrator

Policy Adopted on March 25, 2020

Revised on June 5, 2020

Revised on August 12, 2020

Revised on September 27, 2021

Revised on July 3, 2024

Attachment A
Denied Match Waiver Requests

Subject: Match Waiver Request for <List All Grant Project Numbers>

<Primary Contact>

<Organization Name>

<Organization Address>

RE: <Grant Project Number>

Dear <Primary Contact Prefix & Last Name>:

The agency's Match Waiver Request, received by the Kansas Governor's Grants Program (KGGP) on <Date(s)>, has been denied. After careful consideration, the KGGP has determined the justification provided to document the agency's inability to meet match requirements was insufficient to warrant a match waiver at this time. In summary, <insert brief summary of the "Justification for Decision" response on the Match Waiver Determination Form>.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Attachment B
Approved Match Waiver Requests

Subject: Match Waiver Request for <List All Grant Project Numbers>

<Primary Contact>
<Organization Name>
<Organization Address>

RE: <Grant Project Number>

Dear <Primary Contact Prefix & Last Name>:

The agency's Match Waiver Request, received by the Kansas Governor's Grants Program (KGGP) on <Date(s)>, has been approved. After careful consideration, the KGGP has determined the justification provided to document the agency's inability to meet match requirements was sufficient to warrant a match waiver reducing the required grant project match to <match percentage share of project>. No later than <Date(s)>, please revise the budget in the Grant Portal to reallocate <\$xxx> of match dollars to a new line item in the Other Budget Category titled "*Waived Match*." The Subgrantee understands the funds reallocated to the "*Waived Match*" line item will not be reported on the monthly Financial Status Reports and may be left as an unexpended balance at the end of the grant project period. Prior to submitting the budget revision, please upload a copy of this email to the Attachments tab in lieu of the required budget revision Justification Letter.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,