

NATIONAL NETWORK  
TO END DOMESTIC  
VIOLENCE

# FVPSA Expectations for Domestic Violence Coalitions

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# Today's Goals

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- To understand FVPSA's statutory and regulatory definitions pertaining to State/Territory DV Coalitions
- To understand the requirements to meet and maintain HHS designation as the State/Territory DV Coalition
- To understand FVPSA's statutory, regulatory, and Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) requirements for State/Territory DV Coalitions

# History of FVPSA and DV Coalitions

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- FVPSA was first enacted in 1984 and began as demonstration grants to States and federally recognized Tribes and Alaska Native Villages.
- In 1992, the grants changed from demonstration grants to mandatory formula grants
  - FVPSA first delineated a specific percentage of the funding formula that was to go to State/Territory DV Coalitions at this time
    - 10% out of the 90% of dedicated formula funds; see 42 U.S.C. §10403 (a)(2)(D)

# DV Coalitions and FVPSA Overview

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Both FVPSA Statute and FVPSA regulations address Coalition requirements including:

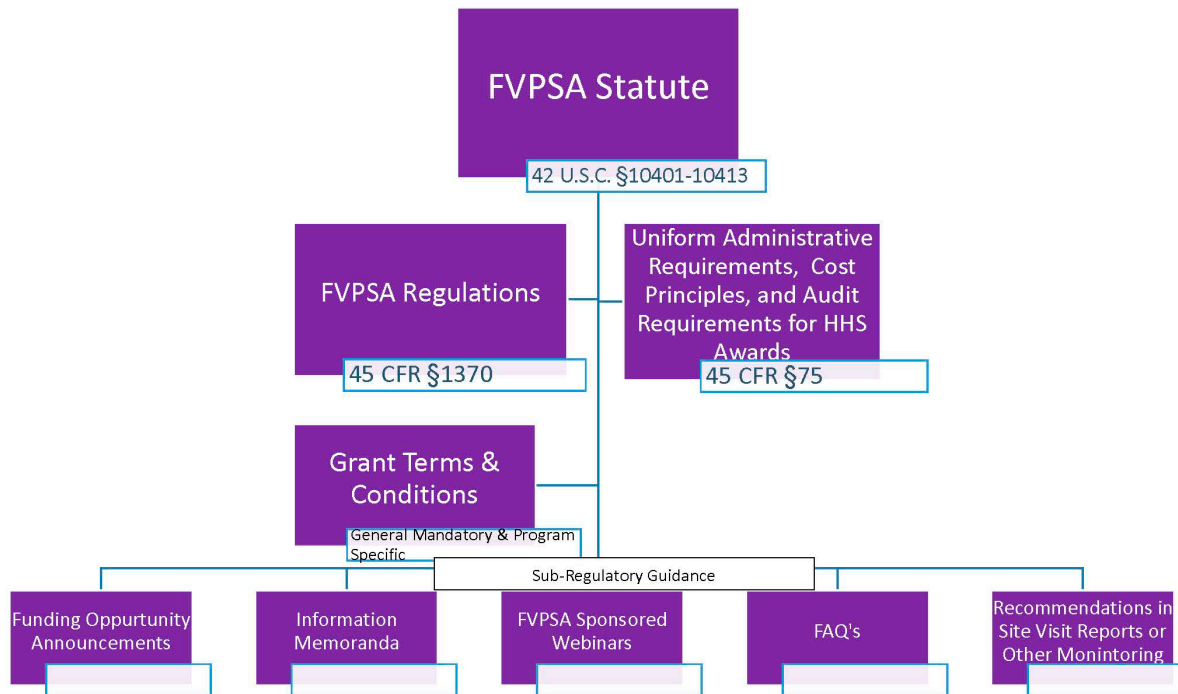
- Defining the purpose and role of a DV Coalition
- Authorizing HHS as the designation authority
- Defining requirements for what comprises a designated DV Coalition
- Detailing the work and activities Coalitions must carry out
- Mandating a close working relationship with the FVPSA State Administrator on specific tasks

# What about the FOA and the PPR?

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- The [Coalition FOA](#) is directly informed by the requirements from the statute and regulations and where you will outline your plan to meet these requirements
- The Coalition PPR is where you will report out your progress/results on meeting the plans you laid out in your application

# Where do I find requirements?












## Guidance Hierarchy for FVPSA Grants

# FVPSA Requirements

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- FVPSA Legislation at [42 U.S.C. § 10401 et seq.](#)
- FVPSA Regulations at [45 CFR § 1370](#)
- [Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements For HHS Awards \(45 CFR § 75\)](#)
  - Note that there is separate guidance for Federal awards in general that is used by OVW ([2 CFR § 200](#))
- [Grant Terms and Conditions](#)
  - [ACF General Terms & Conditions for Mandatory Grantees](#)
  - [FVPSA Specific Terms & Conditions](#)
  - [American Rescue Plan \(ARP\) Terms & Conditions](#)
- Subregulatory guidance may include, but is not limited to,
  - Funding Opportunity Announcements(FOA's); Information Memoranda from FVPSA, FYSB, ACYF, ACF, or HHS; FAQ's; site visit reports; and other correspondence provided from the Federal FVPSA Office

# Mapping the connection between the FVPSA statute and regulations

- § 10401. Short title; purpose 
  - § 10402. Definitions 
  - § 10406. Formula grants to States 
  - § 10407. State application 
  - § 10408. Subgrants and uses of funds 
  - § 10411 Grants to State Domestic Violence Coalitions 
- Subpart A—General Provisions**
- § 1370.1 What are the purposes of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act Programs?
  - § 1370.2 What definitions apply to these programs?
  - § 1370.3 What Government-wide and HHS wide regulations apply to these programs?
  - § 1370.4 What confidentiality requirements apply to these programs?
  - § 1370.5 What additional non- discrimination requirements apply to these programs?
  - § 1370.6 What requirements for reports and evaluations apply to these programs?
- Subpart B—State and Indian Tribal Grants**
- § 1370.10 What additional requirements apply to State and Indian Tribal grants?
- Subpart C—State Domestic Violence Coalition Grants**
- § 1370.20 What additional requirements apply to State Domestic Violence Coalitions?



# A Note about other Federal & State Funding

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- While both FVPSA and OVW provide core funding support to Coalitions, FVPSA provides the “operating manual”
  - OVW refers back to FVPSA in some instances
- Many allowable activities under OVW are similar/the same as FVPSA but within the confines of OVW’s Purposes
- Coalitions may receive Federal or State funds from other sources with their own set of guidelines

# **HHS State/Territory DV Coalition Designation**

# Understanding Designation

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- In order to be eligible to apply for and receive funding under FVPSA, an organization *must be designated as the state/territory DV Coalition*
- **HHS/FVPSA maintains sole discretion in determining designation**
  - See [45 CFR § 1370.20\(e\) & \(f\)](#) and section [V. Section-by-Section Discussion of Comments and the Final Rule \(see pages 76467-76468\)](#)
- DOJ/OVW only provide DV Coalition funding to the HHS/FVPSA designated state/territory DV Coalition

# Understanding Designation

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- The FVPSA regulations at [45 CFR § 1370.20\(b\)](#) provide HHS Designation requirements for DV Coalitions
- Requirements include four separate criteria
- ***All four criteria must be met and maintained to meet and keep designation status***
- Failure to meet one or more criteria may result in the loss of funds and/or the loss of designation status
- Note: Losing HHS designation status not only impacts your FVPSA funding, but also your OVW DV Coalition funding
  - OVW funds DV Coalitions on the approved HHS list located in Appendix B of the [FVPSA Coalition FOA](#)

# Designation Requirements at 45 CFR § 1370.20(b)

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(b) To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, an organization shall be a Statewide, non-governmental, non-profit 501(c)(3) domestic violence coalition, designated as such by the Department. To obtain this designation the organization must meet the following criteria:

- (1) The membership must include representatives from a majority of the primary-purpose domestic violence service providers operating within the State (a Coalition also may include representatives of Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations as defined in the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act);
- (2) The Board membership of the Coalition must be representative of such programs, and may include representatives of communities in which the services are being provided in the State;

# Designation Requirements at 45 CFR § 1370.20(b)

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- (3) Financial sustainability of State Domestic Violence Coalitions, as independent, autonomous non-profit organizations, also must be supported by their membership, including those member representatives on the Coalitions' Boards of Directors;
- (4) The purpose of a State Domestic Violence Coalition is to provide education, support, and technical assistance to such service providers to enable the providers to establish and maintain shelter and supportive services for victims of domestic violence and their dependents; and to serve as an information clearinghouse, primary point of contact, and resource center on domestic violence for the State; and support the development of policies, protocols, and procedures to enhance domestic violence intervention and prevention in the State.

# What if more than one DV Coalition applies for FVPSA funds?

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Per FVPSA regulations at [45 CFR § 1370.20\(e\)](#), HHS will determine which applicant best fits statutory criteria, with particular attention paid to:

- the applicant's documented history of effective work
- support of primary-purpose domestic violence service providers and programs that serve underserved populations
- coordination and collaboration with the State government
- capacity to accomplish the FVPSA-mandated role of a Coalition

Additionally, a DV Coalition must meet the 4 designation criteria listed on slides 13 and 14

# What if a DV Coalition closes?

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Per FVPSA regulations at [45 CFR § 1370.20\(f\)](#) HHS will seek individual feedback to identify an existing organization that can serve as the Coalition or to develop a new organization. Feedback will be collected from:

- domestic violence service providers
- community stakeholders
- State leaders
- representatives of underserved populations and culturally- and linguistically-specific populations



# What if a DV Coalition closes?

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- The new Coalition must reapply for designation and funding following steps determined by HHS
- HHS will determine whether the applicant fits the statutory criteria, with particular attention paid to:
  - the applicant's documented history of effective work
  - support of primary-purpose domestic violence programs and programs that serve underserved populations
  - coordination and collaboration with the State government
  - capacity to accomplish the FVPSA mandated role of a Coalition
- Additionally, a DV Coalition must meet the 4 designation criteria listed on slides 13 & 14

# **FVPSA Definitions, Designation Requirements, and DV Coalitions Purpose and Role**

# What is a DV Coalition under FVPSA?

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Both the FVPSA statute at [42 U.S.C. § 10402 \(11\)](#) and the FVPSA regulations at [45 CFR § 1370.2](#) provide the following parameters under the definition for DV Coalitions:

- State/Territorial wide domestic violence organization
- Nongovernmental
- Nonprofit, private 501(c)(3) organization

# Financial Stability

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The FVPSA regulations at [45 CFR § 1370.20\(b\)\(3\)](#) provide the following as a Designation requirement:

- State/Territory DV Coalitions must maintain Financial sustainability by remaining
  - independent
  - autonomous non-profit organizations
- Must be financially supported by their:
  - Membership
  - Member representatives on the Coalitions' Boards of Directors

# Membership

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Both the statutory and regulatory definitions require that DV Coalition membership ***must include:***

- A ***majority*** of the primary-purpose ***domestic violence service providers*** in the State/Territory
- The designation requirement specific for DV Coalition membership at [45 CFR § 1370.20\(b\)\(1\)](#) mirror the statutory and regulatory definitions

# What does FVPSA mean by Primary Purpose DV Service Provider?

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- A definition was first provided in the regulations at [45 CFR § 1370.2](#)
- FVPSA is clear that the term *only applies to the membership requirements for DV Coalitions*
  - i.e. the State is **not** to use this definition when making funding decisions for subrecipients
    - See discussion on the intent of this term in section [V. Section-by-Section Discussion of Comments and the Final Rule \(see pages 76452-76454\)](#) of the full version of the regulations

# Primary Purpose DV Service Provider

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- A nonprofit, nongovernmental, private entity
- Tribe or Tribal organization
- Operate a project of demonstrated effectiveness
- The project's primary-purpose must be either:
  - The operation of shelters in conjunction with supportive services for DV survivors and their dependents, OR
  - Counseling, advocacy, or self-help services to DV survivors

# What doesn't count?

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- A stand alone sexual assault program
- A stand alone human trafficking program
- Other non-DV specific victim service or community service providers



# Considerations for Territories

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The FVPSA regulatory definition expands considerations for Territorial DV Coalitions and indicates that they:

- ***May include*** government-operated DV projects as primary-purpose DV service providers in order to comply with the membership requirement
- However, the Territorial DV Coalition must also be able to document that they are providing the following to community-based privately operated projects that provide shelter and supportive services to DV survivors:
  - training
  - technical assistance
  - capacity-building **AND**
- That the Territorial DV Coalition intends to recruit such projects as members once they are sustainable as primary-purpose domestic violence service providers

# Remember

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- DV Coalitions must have the **majority** of primary purpose DV Service Providers in the state as members.
- Even if a coalition has not traditionally had specific providers as members, if they meet the FVPSA definition of primary purpose DV Service Provider, they will be used as the total count of providers in the state to determine designation
- For example, if there is more than one coalition, it's not about who has "more" members, but who has the **majority** of the primary purpose DV Service Providers in the state

# Member Program Example

A dual DV Coalition has 30 member programs

- 15 of them are non-profit dv programs or dual dv/sa programs that meet the FVPSA definition
- The remaining 15 are community based organizations or stand alone sexual assault organizations that *do not* meet the definition
- The state also has 3 Tribes, and 2 faith based non profits that have never been members of the Coalition—but these 5 programs meet the definition and bring the State's total eligible programs to 20
- This Coalition only has 15 of the States eligible members

Another organization has 20 member programs

- 15 are the same non-profit dv/dual dv/sa programs as the DV Coalition (that meet the definition)
- They also have 2 of the Tribes and 1 of the faith based non profits that meet the definition and 2 other programs that don't
- This organization has 18 of the State's eligible members
- They meet one of FVPSA's eligibility requirements pertaining to having the majority of primary purpose DV programs

# Board Composition

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Per FVPSA's statutory and regulatory definitions, board membership:

- ***must be*** representative of primary-purpose domestic violence service providers
- ***may include*** representatives of the communities in which the services are being provided in the State
- Designation requirements specific for Board membership at [45 CFR § 1370.20\(b\)\(2\)](#) mirror the statutory and regulatory definitions

# Expectations for Community Board Members

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- The [FVPSA Coalition FOA](#) mirrors the language from the statutory and regulatory definitions and designation requirements
- It also provides additional clarity around expectations for Community Based Board Members, under *Section III, Eligibility Information* (see pg. 11):
  - In order for statewide needs assessments and other organizational and state planning to be fully informed directly by stakeholders from diverse communities, ***it is expected that the Coalition Board of Directors will reflect the cultural, racial, and ethnic populations that the coalition serves throughout the state***

# Board Composition

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Designation requirements specific for Board membership at [45 CFR § 1370.20\(b\)\(2\)](#) also expand the “*may include*” category to encompass the statutory requirements at [42 U.S.C. § 10411 \(h\)](#):

- Representatives of Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations as defined in the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act

# Tribes as Board Members

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The [FVPSA Coalition FOA](#) provides additional clarity, under *Section III, Eligibility Information* (see pg. 11):

- Tribes have special sovereign status and, as such, collaborations with them ***must***:
  1. Include the ***opportunity for coalition membership*** provided they meet general membership eligibility requirements
  2. Ensure that there are ***no impediments to their membership*** given their special sovereign status

# FVPSA DV Coalition Purpose

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Per FVPSA's statutory and regulatory definitions, DV Coalitions must have as their purpose:

- To enable primary purpose DV service providers to establish and maintain shelter and supportive services for DV survivors and their dependents by providing them with:
  - education
  - support
  - technical assistance
- Designation requirements specific for the DV Coalition purpose at [45 CFR § 1370.20\(b\)\(4\)](#) mirror the statutory and regulatory definitions



# FVPSA DV Coalition Role

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Per FVPSA's statutory and regulatory definitions, DV Coalitions must serve in their role as:

- An information clearinghouse
- Primary point of contact
- Resource center on domestic violence for the State/Territory

The [Coalition FOA](#) also requires that the list of activities:

- Include those in which underserved and culturally specific populations *participate in identifying the kinds of resource information and other data needed to meet the unique needs of such populations*

# FVPSA DV Coalition Role

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- DV Coalitions must also support the development of
  - policies
  - protocols
  - proceduresthat must:
  - Enhance DV *intervention and prevention* in the State/Territory
  - Include those related to maintaining shelter and supportive services for DV survivors and their dependents
- Designation requirements specific for the DV Coalition role at [45 CFR § 1370.20\(b\)\(4\)](#) mirror the statutory and regulatory definitions

# What does FVPSA mean by “enhancing DV intervention and prevention”?

DV Coalitions will accomplish this through:

- The provision of information to various entities in multiple fields
- Training and TA to those fields
- Collaboration with those fields to support the development and implementation of effective policies, protocols, and programs (for these entities/fields) that address the safety and support needs of adult and youth DV survivors

Fields include (but are not limited to):

- housing
- health care
- mental health
- social welfare
- business
  - See [42 U.S.C. § 10411\(d\)\(4\)](#), [45 CFR § 1370.20\(c\)\(1\)\(iv\)](#), [Coalition FOA section IV. Application and Submission Information/Application Submission Requirements/Program Description 5\(e\)](#)

# What about the legal fields?

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Work with judicial and law enforcement agencies:

- To encourage appropriate responses to cases of family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence against adults or youth

Work with family law judges, criminal court judges, child protective service agencies, and children's advocates

- To develop appropriate responses to child custody and visitation issues in cases of child exposure to DV when
  - (A) family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence is present
  - (B) child abuse is present

See [42 U.S.C. § 10411\(d\)\(5\) & \(6\)](#), [45 CFR § 1370.20\(c\)\(1\)\(v\) & \(vi\)](#), [Coalition FOA section IV. Application and Submission Information/Application Submission Requirements/Program Description 5\(f\) & \(g\)](#)

# What if we use OVW funds to address the issues with the legal fields?

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If you use OVW DV Coalition funds to do the previous slides' activities **and** you are coordinating those activities with the State's STOP formula grant activities that address those purposes, then you are **not** required to do *additional* activities using FVPSA funds. However, you must provide an assurance to indicate that you:

- Have received those OVW funds
- Are using them to meet these purposes
- Coordinated the activities with the State's STOP formula grant activities
- Describe the activities in those OVW-funded areas, including those in collaboration with the state STOP grant activities per the [Coalition FOA](#) requirements

See [42 U.S.C. § 10411\(e\)](#), [45 CFR § 1370.20\(d\)](#), [Coalition FOA](#) section IV. Application and Submission Information/Application Submission Requirements/Program Description 5(f) & (g)

# Training and TA

# Training and TA Audiences

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- Member programs
- Non-member programs
- FVPSA funded programs
- Non-FVPSA funded programs
- Tribes and tribal organizations
- Culturally and linguistically specific community based programs serving underserved communities
- The entities from various fields as mentioned on slides 34-35
- The public

# Training and TA Topics

- Providing information to the public about prevention of DV including information targeted to underserved population, including limited English proficient individuals
- Encouraging appropriate and comprehensive responses to DV against adults and youth
- Building the capacity of DV programs within the state to provide inclusive and culturally relevant services for the underserved populations identified in the state planning process
- Ensuring programs are welcoming and accessible to underserved populations
  - Examples include: LGBTQ communities, adolescents, male victims, immigrants, and human trafficking victims, etc.
- DV Coalitions ***must provide training and TA on FVPSA requirements*** to ensure subrecipient understanding and to assist them with compliance

See [42 U.S.C. § 10411\(d\)\(1\) and \(7\)](#), [45 CFR § 1370.20\(c\)\(1\)\(i\) & \(vii\)](#), and [Coalition FOA section IV. Application and Submission Information; Application Submission Requirements; Program Description 5\(a\) and \(h\) on pgs. 17 & 19 and section I. Program Description/Statutory Authority/Coordinated and Accessible Services](#)



# Training and TA Approach

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- Trauma informed care
- Coordinated and Accessible Services
- In collaboration with partners as needed
  - The state
  - Tribal Coalitions
  - Representatives from:
    - Underserved populations
    - Tribes
    - Culturally and linguistically specific populations
  - The [Domestic Violence Resource Network \(DVRN\)](#)

# Trauma-Informed Practices and Interventions

The [Coalition FOA](#) (see page 3 of the FOA under *section I. Program Description/Statutory Authority/Trauma-Informed Practices and Interventions* explains that:

- Trauma informed care is a priority of the Family and Youth Services Bureau which FVPSA operates under
- Trauma-informed interventions must be at the core of working with DV Survivors and their dependents
- Trauma informed care is deeply connected to the provision of FVPSA's requirements for voluntary services, including the prohibition on background screening of survivors seeking services

As coalitions plan their training and TA priorities, they must include responses that **help support trauma-informed services among their member programs to ensure positive outcomes for all service populations**

- Specifically, *under section IV. Application and Submission Information/Application Submission Requirements/Program Description 5(I)*, this includes:
  - **assessing all member programs annually** to identify those needing additional training, technical assistance, and support on trauma-focused intervention strategies that address lifetime exposure to violence

# Coordinated and Accessible Services

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The [Coalition FOA](#) (see pgs. 4- 6) under *section I. Program Description/Statutory Authority/Coordinated and Accessible Services*) explains that community service providers, including those serving or representing underserved communities, *must be involved in:*

- *The design and improvements of intervention and prevention activities* to ensure that services are welcoming and accessible (see slides 32-33)
- Determining the training and technical assistance priorities
- The coalitions' boards, committees, and other activities to ensure they are part of the decision-making process to create and maintain fully coordinated and accessible services

See also [42 U.S.C. § 10411\(d\)\(2\),\(3\) & \(8\)](#), [45 CFR § 1370.20\(c\)\(1\)\(ii\),\(iii\)](#), and [\(viii\)](#), and [Coalition FOA section IV. Application and Submission Information; Application Submission Requirements; Program Description 5\(b-d\) and \(i\) on pgs. 17-19](#)

# Coordinated and Accessible Services

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- You will recall from our webinars on Coalition Needs Assessments and State Planning that FVPSA requires both states and coalitions to work in partnership
- Both DV Coalitions and States are required to involve representatives from Tribes, community-based organizations that primarily serve underserved populations, and tribal coalitions in:
  - The state planning process
- Both DV Coalitions and states are required to involve tribal coalitions in:
  - The planning and monitoring of the distribution and administration of subgrant programs and projects

See also [42 U.S.C. § 10411\(d\)\(2\),\(3\) & \(8\)](#), [45 CFR § 1370.20\(c\)\(1\)\(ii\),\(iii\)](#), and [\(viii\)](#), and [Coalition FOA section IV. Application and Submission Information; Application Submission Requirements; Program Description 5\(b-d\) and \(i\) on pgs. 17-19](#)

# Coalition participation in determinations of compliance

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- FVPSA statute at [42 U.S.C. §10407\(b\)\(3\)](#) allows state DV coalitions and tribal coalitions to participate in determining whether States or Tribes are in compliance with:
- Their respective application requirements under [42 U.S.C. §10407\(a\)](#)
- Section [42 U.S.C. § 10406\(c\)](#), *grant conditions*
  - Approved activities, non-discrimination, prohibition on income eligibility, match, and confidentiality
- FVPSA DV Coalition funds ***may not be used*** to:
  - Challenge a determination about whether a grantee is in compliance
  - Seek the enforcement of the requirements of this chapter

# Training & TA on FVPSA requirements

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- As we discussed earlier, DV Coalitions should be familiar with the State's requirements under FVPSA statute, regulations, terms and conditions, and the [State FOA](#)
- Knowing these requirements will assist DV Coalitions as they support and assist subrecipients and eligible subrecipients to:
  - understand the requirements
  - help those who are funded come into and maintain compliance

# Training & TA on FVPSA requirements

- Allowable costs
  - See [42 U.S.C. § 10408 \(b\), Subgrants and uses of funds](#) and [45 CFR §75](#)
- Financial and other guidance from the [Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for HHS Awards at 45 CFR §75](#)
- FVPSA eligible subrecipients
  - [42 U.S.C. § 10408 \(c\)](#)
- Requirements and terms and conditions of their state FVPSA awards
- Non-discrimination
  - Age, disability, sex, actual or perceived gender identity, actual or perceived sexual orientation, race, color, national origin, religion, and immigration status
- Voluntary Services
- \*Confidentiality
- Prohibition on fees for service and income requirements
- Prohibition on direct payment to survivors
- Reporting requirements
- Match requirements
- Effective communication for Limited English Proficient and Deaf/hard of hearing survivors
- Welcoming and Accessible Services
- Building and maintaining collaborations with Tribes and community partners, especially culturally specific organizations that serve underserved communities


# Special Note on Confidentiality

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The Coalition FOA has several specific requirements around Confidentiality

- *Section I. Program Description/Statutory Authority/Client Confidentiality on pg. 4*
- *Section IV. Application and Submission Information; Application Submission Requirements; Program Description 6 on pg. 20*
  - With respect to confidentiality, [provide] a description of the coalitions:
    - [DV Coalition] policies and procedures to maintain victim confidentiality
    - activities, training, and/or technical assistance *to support member programs' confidentiality practices to support victim safety*
    - activities undertaken with the FVPSA state administrator to ensure victim confidentiality in FVPSA- funded domestic violence programs





**QUESTIONS &  
DISCUSSION**

# Contact Information

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# **Relevant FVPSA References: Statute, Regulations, FOAs**

# *State Domestic Violence Coalition*

## Statutory Definition

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### **(11) State Domestic Violence Coalition**

The term “State Domestic Violence Coalition” means a statewide nongovernmental nonprofit private domestic violence organization that—

- (A) has a membership that includes a majority of the primary-purpose domestic violence service providers in the State;
- (B) has board membership that is representative of primary-purpose domestic violence service providers, and which may include representatives of the communities in which the services are being provided in the State;
- (C) has as its purpose to provide education, support, and technical assistance to such service providers to enable the providers to establish and maintain shelter and supportive services for victims of domestic violence and their dependents; and
- (D) serves as an information clearinghouse, primary point of contact, and resource center on domestic violence for the State and supports the development of policies, protocols, and procedures to enhance domestic violence intervention and prevention in the State.

# State Domestic Violence Coalition

## Regulatory Definition

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*State Domestic Violence Coalition* means a Statewide, nongovernmental, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization whose membership includes a majority of the primary-purpose domestic violence service providers in the State; whose board membership is representative of these primary-purpose domestic violence service providers and which may include representatives of the communities in which the services are being provided in the State; that has as its purpose to provide education, support, and technical assistance to such service providers to enable the providers to establish and maintain supportive services and to provide shelter to victims of domestic violence and their children; and that serves as an information clearinghouse, primary point of contact, and resource center on domestic violence for the State and supports the development of policies, protocols and procedures to enhance domestic violence intervention and prevention in the State/Territory.

# *Primary-purpose domestic violence* service provider Regulatory Definition

*Primary-purpose domestic violence service provider*, for the term only as it appears in the definition of State Domestic Violence Coalition, means an entity that operates a project of demonstrated effectiveness carried out by a nonprofit, nongovernmental, private entity, Tribe, or Tribal organization, that has as its project's primary-purpose the operation of shelters and supportive services for victims of domestic violence and their dependents; or has as its project's primary purpose counseling, advocacy, or self-help services to victims of domestic violence. Territorial Domestic Violence Coalitions may include government-operated domestic violence projects as primary-purpose domestic violence service providers for complying with the membership requirement, provided that Territorial Coalitions can document providing training, technical assistance, and capacity-building of community-based and privately operated projects to provide shelter and supportive services to victims of family, domestic, or dating violence, with the intention of recruiting such projects as members once they are sustainable as primary-purpose domestic violence service providers.

# Designation when 2 DV Coalitions apply

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- (e) In cases in which two or more organizations seek designation, the designation of each State's individual Coalition is within the exclusive discretion of HHS. HHS will determine which applicant best fits statutory criteria, with particular attention paid to the applicant's documented history of effective work, support of primary-purpose domestic violence service providers and programs that serve underserved populations, coordination and collaboration with the State government, and capacity to accomplish the FVPSA-mandated role of a Coalition.

# Designation when a DV Coalition closes

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- (f) Regarding FVPSA funding, in cases where a Coalition financially or otherwise dissolves, is newly formed, or merges with another entity, the designation of a new Coalition is within the exclusive discretion of HHS. HHS will seek individual feedback from domestic violence service providers, community stakeholders, State leaders, and representatives of underserved populations and culturally- and linguistically-specific populations to identify an existing organization that can serve as the Coalition or to develop a new organization. The new Coalition must reapply for designation and funding following steps determined by the Secretary. HHS will determine whether the applicant fits the statutory criteria, with particular attention paid to the applicant's documented history of effective work, support of primary-purpose domestic violence programs and programs that serve underserved populations, coordination and collaboration with the State government, and capacity to accomplish the FVPSA mandated role of a Coalition.