

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

CJS-2018-05-CD-RFP-STUDY OF VETERANS NEEDS AND TREATMENT COURTS

April 2, 2018

1. For deliverable 2, it is required to have findings representing no less than 85% of counties with no VTCs. Not all counties have large Veteran population, raising the question of how responses will be sought.

ANSWER: We expect the contractor to survey all counties without VTCs and to have a minimum response rate of 85%. We anticipate the survey's respondents will include court, criminal justice, and/or county administration regardless of the number of veterans in each county.

2. If there is a statewide assessment, will the investigator use consensus or other standards to select counties with no VTCs or the project will include all counties in California with no VTCs? If the former, is it allowable to develop the standards to select counties?

<https://www.calvet.ca.gov/VetServices/PublishingImages/Pages/Veteran-Demographics-/California%20Veteran%20Population%20by%20County.pdf>

ANSWER: The JCC will provide a list of counties without VTCs. We expect the contractor to survey all counties without VTCs and to have a minimum response rate of 85%.

3. The Judicial Council will be responsible for conducting a quantitative data analysis to measure VTCs' participants' outcomes. Does the investigator have access to the quantitative data if they are related to the Qs from the qualitative studies?

ANSWER: The JCC will share with the contractor any information or aggregate level data within our possession that is needed to complete this project.

4. For the qualitative study of the counties with a VTC, what online assessment format it will be? Is the investigator allowed to develop our own format?

ANSWER: A responsive proposal will document the complete methodological approach to gathering information. If an online assessment is conducted, the contractor is free to choose an appropriate tool.

5. Can the investigator interview Veterans and get their perspective about VTCs?

ANSWER: The contractor may interview veterans if proper informed consent and confidentiality protocols are outlined in the proposal and followed.

6. If the investigator has difficulties with reaching out to some VTCs' program staff, who should he/she contact to get support?

ANSWER: Per section 2.4 of the RFP, the JCC staff will initiate contact between the contractor and VTC staff. JCC staff will assist in additional communication efforts as needed.

7. The total compensation for this contract does not seem sufficient for the amount of workload required. The lack of funds may hinder a contractor's ability to develop meaningful products. Would the Judicial Council consider adding more funds to the project?

ANSWER: A total of \$60,000 is now available. The proposal should reflect the work that can be feasibly accomplished within these parameters.

8. In the RFP, I see visits to a few VTCs conducted jointly by contractor and Judicial Council. But I do not see the list of "Sample outcomes" from the law. Your intent of these visits is to gather those sample outcomes, yes? This also implies that sample outcomes are to be gathered from only a few VTCs, not 85% of them; am I right?

ANSWER: As per section 1.8 of the RFP, the JCC will be responsible for collecting and analyzing participant outcomes from a sample of VTCs. For VTCs currently in operation, the contractor is responsible for information in section 2.2.3 of the RFP. The purpose of the site visits is to assist the contractor in completing the duties outlined in section 2.2.3. and to gain more in-depth knowledge of VTC processes.

9. A few months ago, I heard you folks say that you might have data in your possession already, from past surveys you have conducted. Have you found any data to share?

ANSWER: The JCC staff will share with the contractor any information or aggregate level data within our possession that is needed to complete this project.

10. Some data gathering could be done via formal surveys. In my experience, it takes time, persistence, and clout to get people to respond. Is it possible that Judicial Council could conduct those surveys? (I'm thinking that you would have much better luck getting people to respond than would a contractor.)

ANSWER: The JCC staff will initiate contact with VTC court staff to encourage cooperation with the contractor. JCC staff will assist in additional communication efforts as needed.

11. Can you share in advance a list of counties that do/do not have VTCs?

ANSWER: A list of counties that have a VTC can be found [here](#). The contractor will work off this list to validate that the programs are currently operating.

12. Does the Judicial Council have an inventory of what other collaborative courts/other treatment courts are currently operated in counties across CA?

ANSWER: Yes. Information of currently operating VTCs will be provided to the contractor.

13. We note that the RFP does not include all of the items called for in SB339; specifically, "The assessment shall evaluate the impact of a sample of veterans treatment courts on participant outcomes..." appears to be missing. Will this additional study be performed separately?

ANSWER: Yes. Please see Section 1.7 of the RFP.

14. Are indirect costs allowable?

ANSWER: Yes. Indirect costs are allowable for the primary contractor. However, indirect costs are not allowable for any subcontractors.

END OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS