

From: JAG Victim Services JAG:EX <VictimServices@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, August 5, 2020 11:29 AM
Subject: COVID-19 Victim Services and Violence Against Women Support Fund

Dear Service Provider,

I am pleased to advise that a ***COVID-19 Victim Services and Violence Against Women Support Fund (Support Fund)*** has now been established which will provide a contribution towards incremental costs incurred by service providers as a result of the pandemic. Branch staff have heard from many of our service providers since early in the pandemic expressing concerns about increased costs as they transitioned to remote work and adjusted their operations to align with the guidelines provided by BC's Provincial Health Officer. I am grateful for your patience as we worked with our colleagues in the Ministry of Finance to secure this funding.

What is the COVID-19 Victim Services and Violence Against Women Support Fund?

The Support Fund is being made available to provide service providers with financial assistance to offset some of the expenses related to additional staffing costs resulting from staff shortages, increased overtime and services demands (from March 16 to May 31, 2020), as well as expenses related to remote/virtual service delivery and for the delivery of direct, in-person services in a manner compliant with current guidelines, supporting the safety of staff and clients.

What is the process to apply for funding?

The Application Guide will provide detailed instructions on the process, as well as how to complete Part 1 and 2 of the COVID-19 Support Fund Application.

The following documents are attached for your information:

1. COVID-9 Support Fund Application Guide
2. COVID-19 Support Fund Application Form PART 1
3. COVID-19 Support Fund Application Form PART 2

The deadline for application is September 9, 2020.

If I have already identified my program's needs, do I need to submit an application form?

Yes. Although some programs have previously emailed the branch with additional funding requests, application forms are required to be completed to receive these funds.

When will the funds be made available?

We anticipate the funds to be provided in mid-October. Funding will be provided via a one-time grant and is not to be considered ongoing funding. Stipulations on the use of the funds will be in place and grant recipients will be required to report back on use of the grant funding provided.

Who can we contact with specific questions?

If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Rehimy via email at VictimServices@gov.bc.ca or phone at 778-572-3605.