



## Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

KATHY HOCHUL  
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# Services to Older Refugees Program (SORP) 2025

## All Applicant Notice

- ✓ Submission Deadline: 2:00 pm on August 23, 2024.
- ✓ All applicants must be Prequalified in the Statewide Financial System (SFS) in order for OTDA to review the application. Completed applications from organizations that are not Prequalified by 2:00 pm on August 23, 2024, will not be reviewed.
- ✓ The SFS helpdesk hours are 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, Monday – Friday. Contact information for SFS assistance is as follows: 518-457-7737 [helpdesk@sfs.ny.gov](mailto:helpdesk@sfs.ny.gov)
- ✓ All portions of the application should be submitted in SFS. Answer all questions.
- ✓ Applicants are strongly encouraged to finish the application and submit it well before the deadline. It is recommended that applicants allow enough time to check for errors. Typical errors are not answering required questions or not uploading required documents. The system will not accept applications submitted after 2:00 pm on August 23. Note when the clock turns 2:00 pm you will be unable to submit the SORP application.

## Questions and Answers

### Program Information

1. For clarification, the awarded contractor is responsible to engage the community and identify those refugees in need of service?
  - It is the responsibility of the grantee to recruit eligible SORP participants from the local community that are in need of services. Please refer to pages 9-10 of the Request for Proposal for more information.
2. For clarification, only a refugee who has been in the US for less than 60 months may receive services under the program?
  - Eligible participants who have been in an eligible immigration status for more than 60 months are eligible for Services to Older Refugees Five-Years Post Arrival services, including Naturalization Assistance, Interpretation and Translation Services and Referrals. Please refer to pages 12-13 of the Request for Proposal for more information regarding these services.
3. For clarification, if a refugee begins services with the program before the five years is up, are they able to continue services post 60 months? Or will services need to be terminated?
  - After 60 months in an eligible immigration status the SORP participant would only be eligible for Services to Older Refugees Five-Years Post Arrival services. Please refer to pages 14-15 of the Request for Proposal for additional information regarding the eligibility period for SORP participants.

4. For clarification, can a refugee continue to receive Naturalization Assistance Services after 60 months? If a refugee is receiving the Naturalization Assistance Services post 60 months, the contractor can claim services noted on the Naturalization Plan?
  - Eligible participants can continue to receive Naturalization Assistance services after 60 months in an eligible immigration status and the contractor can continue to claim services noted on the Individual Naturalization Plan. Please refer to pages 14-15 of the Request for Proposal for additional information regarding the eligibility period for SORP participants.
5. Can a refugee enter the program after 60 months, if they are only seeking Naturalization Assistance?
  - Eligible participants who are in an eligible immigration status after 60 months may receive Services to Older Refugees Five-Years Post Arrival services, which includes Naturalization Assistance. Please refer to pages 14-15 of the Request for Proposal for additional information regarding the eligibility period for SORP participants.
6. Does SORP determine or have a limit on how many participants can be served per contract?
  - OTDA has not set a limit on how many participants can be served per contract.
7. Can program funds be used for transportation costs for the refugee clients? (This would be, for example, to use Uber or taxis or other means to bring them to gatherings, or events, etc.)
  - Eligible participants in an eligible immigration status for 60 months or less are eligible for transportation services within the Supportive Services deliverable. Please refer to page 12 of the Request for Proposal for more information regarding the Supportive Services deliverable.

#### Part C – Forms to Upload

8. On the General Information Document question 5 asks for an Award Amount. What number should be used as no award has been given?
  - The award amount on the General Information Form refers to the award amount that you are requesting through this procurement.
9. On Offer's Acknowledgement of Understanding of Post-Employment Provisions Document it asks for Contract Number. Is that supposed to read contractor number?
  - The field is supposed to read "contract number." You may leave this field blank during the application process and if awarded, the contract number will be added later.

#### Eligible Grant Applicants

10. I currently have a not-for-profit office of a few clinicians working together. We help many elderly refugees and I would like to apply for this grant so I can help them more. Can you please help me with how I can apply for the grant? Thank You
  - Eligible applicants include non-governmental organizations: nonprofit corporations, including charitable organizations incorporated, registered and in good standing with the Charities Bureau of the Attorney General in the State of New York; faith-based organizations and educational institutions. Eligible applicants must also be prequalified in the Statewide Financial System (SFS), must be located in and do business in New York State and must have the capacity to provide services within one of the six impacted areas: Erie, Monroe, Onondaga, Oneida and Albany counties, and New York City (5 boroughs). Please refer to pages 5-6 of the Request for Proposal for more information regarding registration and

prequalification requirements. Please refer to pages 32-40 of the Request for Proposal for instructions on completing the application.

11. I am writing to inquire about the eligibility of Refugee Atelier for funding opportunities through OTDA. Refugee Atelier is a nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering refugees and asylum seekers through sustainable fashion manufacturing. We provide specialized training and employment opportunities in the cut and sew sector.

Could you please provide information on whether our organization qualifies for funding and, if so, the application process?

- Eligible applicants include non-governmental organizations: nonprofit corporations, including charitable organizations incorporated, registered and in good standing with the Charities Bureau of the Attorney General in the State of New York; faith-based organizations and educational institutions. Eligible applicants must also be prequalified in SFS, must be located in and do business in New York State and must have the capacity to provide services within one of the six impacted areas: Erie, Monroe, Onondaga, Oneida and Albany counties, and New York City (5 boroughs). Please refer to pages 5-6 of the Request for Proposal for more information regarding registration and prequalification requirements. Please refer to pages 32-40 of the Request for Proposal for instructions on completing the application.