

Match Waiver Request

Match Waiver

Prior to submission to OVW

1. The state must prepare a formal waiver request to the Director of OVW. The request must come in the form of a letter. The request should be submitted by the state three months from the date of its most recent award.

2. The match waiver request must demonstrate financial need. Evidence of financial need includes:

Specific evidence of economic distress, such as documentation of high unemployment rates, poverty rates, and designation as a FEMA disaster area, and how this affects the State's ability to provide violence against women matching funds may demonstrate financial need. For example, if a state shows that across the board budget cuts have directly reduced funding for violence against women by 20 percent, then the state would be considered for a 20 percent waiver, not a full waiver. Reductions in federal funds are not relevant to state match unless the state can show that the reduced federal funding directly reduced available state funds to support violence against women. The state would need to provide attachments to demonstrate this effect, such as portions of the state budget demonstrating shifts in funding or a letter from the Governor's office.

3. The match waiver request must include the following:

- i. The sources of non-federal funds available to the state for match and the amount available from each source, including in-kind match and match provided by subgrantees or other entities;
- ii. Efforts made by the state to obtain the matching funds, including, if applicable, letters from other state agencies stating that the funds available from such agencies may not be used for match;
- iii. The specific dollar amount or percentage waiver that is requested;
- iv. Cause and extent of the constraints on the historical and projected ability to raise violence against women matching funds; and
- v. Specific evidence of economic distress, such as documentation of high unemployment rates, poverty rates, and designation as a FEMA disaster area, and how this affects the state's ability to provide violence against women matching funds. For example, if a state shows that across the board budget cuts have directly reduced funding for violence against women programs by 20 percent, that state would be considered for a 20 percent waiver, not a full waiver. Reductions in federal funds are not relevant to state match unless the state can show that the reduced federal funding directly reduced available state funds to support violence against women programs. The state would need to provide attachments to demonstrate this effect, such as portions of the state budget demonstrating shifts in funding or a letter from the Governor's office.

Submission, review and decision

1. The state must submit the match waiver application to OVW.STOPMatchWaiver@usdoj.gov.