

**WHITE PAPER
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VETERAN FAMILIES (SSVF) PROGRAM
REVISIONS IN RENEWAL APPLICATION**

ISSUE: Complete modest changes in the format of renewal applications submitted in response to VA's Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for SSVF grants.

BACKGROUND: Section 604 of the Veterans' Mental Health and Other Care Improvements Act of 2008, Public Law 110-387, authorized the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to develop the SSVF Program, which provides supportive services to very low-income Veteran families residing in or transitioning to permanent housing. Grants may be awarded to private, non-profit organizations, and consumer cooperatives that will assist very low-income Veteran families by providing a range of supportive services designed to promote housing stability. SSVF rapid re-housing and homeless prevention services will play a critical role in the Secretary's plan to end homelessness among Veterans.

DISCUSSION: The VA offers funding for SSVF grants through the publication of a NOFA in the Federal Register and makes application materials available on the VA's SSVF website. Responses to the NOFA are submitted electronically by the due date set in the NOFA. The target date for the publication of next NOFA is January 15, 2016. This NOFA will make funding available to renewal applicants only.

ACTIONS: On June 22, 2015 the SSVF program office submitted a revised renewal application form for approval. This revised application would make modest changes in the application for SSVF grant renewals. The changes consist of reordering some questions, getting rid of text boxes in favor of using narratives (making it consistent with our application for new applicants), and clarifying some previous questions. The overall burden should be unchanged. A summary of these changes are as follows.

Section	Old application	New application
A	Question 1	Still 1
	2	Now 4
	3	Now 5
	4	Now 3
	5a	Now 2
	5b	Now 6
B	1	Still 1
	2	2 a,b,c (same info, but more detail provided)
C	unchanged	

IMPLICATIONS: Goal is to target these changes for approval for the next NOFA, expected to be published on January 15, 2016.