

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
UNACCOMPANIED UNDOCUMENTED MINORS (UUMS)  
LEGAL SERVICES FUNDING  
REQUEST FOR APPLICATION (RFA)  
STAKEHOLDER CALL FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS  
JULY 2016**

**REQUEST FOR APPLICATION**

- **Where is the UUM Legal Services Funding Request for Application (RFA) located?**  
The RFA is posted on the [Immigration Services UUM Website](#).
  
- **What criteria will be used to evaluate applications?**  
The Department will assess the following:
  - Timeliness and completeness of RFA;
  - Satisfaction of statutory requirements to provide high quality services;
  - Applicant's ability to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate services;
  - Applicant's ability to collaborate and leverage agency and community partnerships to provide services to UUMs;
  - Capacity and staff qualifications to provide legal services; and
  - Past performance (if applicable).
  
- **Can an applicant serve more than one region and/or counties within the state of California?**  
Yes. The UUM funding covers counties/regions statewide. One applicant can serve multiple regions and/or counties.
  
- **Does the UUM funding only cover UUMs from specific countries?**  
No. Eligible UUMs as defined in Section 279(g)(2) of Title 6 of the United States Code can come from any country.
  
- **Will the Department award grants for training and technical assistance services pursuant to the UUM funding?**  
No. Training and technical assistance services are not eligible for funding.
  
- **Can an applicant apply as a subcontractor and also apply separately as a principal applicant?**  
Yes. An applicant can apply as a primary contractor and as a subcontractor. Please do note that the Department will evaluate each application separately and also each organization and all of its proposed services in their entirety to ensure ability to satisfy all funding requirements, including capacity.
  
- **Is funding available for representation of UUMs who meet all requirements for service, but turned 18 years of age before the initiation of representation by a contractor?**  
Yes. Provided a UUM enters the US before the age of 18 and s/he meets all of the other requirements for services, a contractor can use this funding to represent the UUM, even if the UUM does not sign a retainer for service before s/he turns 18.

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**QUALIFICATIONS**

- **Does the UUM funding require a contractor have experience handling asylum, T-Visa, U-Visa and special immigration juvenile cases (SIJS)?**

Please note that this is a correction from the information provided during the stakeholder call. To be eligible, a contractor must have experience handling asylum applications and removal proceedings. In addition, to be eligible, a contractor must have three years of experience and must have served 25 individuals with T-Visa applications, U-Visa petitions or SIJS petitions.

In sum, a contractor must have the following legal experience to be eligible to receive funding:

- three years of experience handling T-Visa, U-Visa or SIJS cases and has represented at least 25 individuals in these matters; and
  - representing individuals in removal proceedings and asylum applications.
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- **In addition to the primary applicant meeting all of the requirements, does a subcontractor need to meet the statutory requirements as well under this funding?**  
No. The strict statutory requirements apply only to primary contractors. However, the Department will evaluate the capacity and staff qualifications of both contractors and subcontractors to provide the proposed services.
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- **The UUM statute requires contractors to have “at least three years of experience handling asylum, T-Visa, U-Visa or SIJS cases and have represented at least 25 individuals in these matters.” Do the 25 individuals have to have been UUMs?**  
No. The statute does not limit the experience to UUM cases.
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- **The UUM statute requires contractors to have “experience guiding and supervising the work of attorneys who themselves do not regularly participate in this area of the law but nevertheless work pro bono.” Does guiding and supervising law students satisfy this requirement?**  
Yes. Guiding and supervising law students satisfies this requirement.

**FEE-PER-CASE**

- **What is the fee structure under this funding?**  
The fee-per-client is \$5,000 for all case types: asylum, T-Visa, U-Visa, SIJS, and other affirmative remedies.
- **How can my organization be reimbursed for serving UUM clients?**  
All organizations can invoice the CDSS for 50% (\$2,500) of the UUM rate (\$5,000) upon initial representation. The remaining 50% (\$2,500) of the UUM rate (\$5,000) can be invoiced upon completion of representation.

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A complete case eligible for a final payment is defined as follows<sup>1</sup>:

<b>Affirmative Petition</b>	<b>Evidence of Case Completion</b>
Asylum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Final adjudication of the application for permanent residency (I-485), including any appropriate appeals of denials and final resolution of removal proceedings</li> <li>▪ Denial of Asylum Application, including any appropriate appeals and final resolution of removal proceedings</li> </ul>
SIJS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Final adjudication of the application for permanent residency (I-485), including any appropriate appeals of denials and final resolution of removal proceedings</li> <li>▪ Denial of SIJS Petition, including any appropriate appeals and final resolution of removal proceedings</li> </ul>
T-Visa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Final adjudication of application for T Visa (I-914), including any appropriate appeals of denials and resolution of removal proceedings</li> </ul>
U-Visa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Final adjudication of petition for U Visa (I-918), including any appropriate appeals of denials and resolution of removal proceedings</li> </ul>

**PROGRAM CHANGES**

• **Are there any programs changes in the new FY 2016/17 UUM RFA?**

Yes. Please note the following important changes:

- **A# Verification:** In an effort to streamline the verification process, the Department will require contractors to submit a Verification of Release from ORR with each invoice for a new case along with the initial representation agreement.
- **Completed Cases:** The Department will require that contractors submit documentation that evidences a case is complete along with the final invoice.
- **Reporting Requirements:** The Department will require progress reports and is in the process of generating the reporting forms.
- **New Questions in RFA:** The RFA contains new questions that provide applicants the opportunity to share more information about their organization and capacity to deliver services to UUMs.

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<sup>1</sup> The Department will monitor processing times for these remedies and reserves the right to adjust the closing definition of completed cases as needed.