

## IX. Rating Criteria for Award

Applications will be reviewed by a DOL panel using the point scoring system specified below. Applications will be ranked based on the score assigned by the panel after careful evaluation by each panel member. The ranking will be the primary basis to identify applicants as potential grantees. Although the Government reserves the right to award on the basis of the initial proposal submissions, the Government may establish a competitive range, based upon the proposal evaluation, for the purpose of selecting qualified applicants. The panel's conclusions are advisory in nature and not binding on the Grant Officer. The Government reserves the right to ask for clarification or hold discussions, but is not obligated to do so. The Government further reserves the right to select applicants out of rank order if such a selection would, in its opinion, result in the most effective and appropriate combination of funding, program and administrative costs *e.g.*, cost per enrollment and placement, demonstration models, and geographic service areas. While points will not be awarded for cost issues, cost per entered employment will be given serious consideration in the selection of awardee. The Grant Officer's determination is final agency action for award under SGA 03-02 is the final agency action.

### Panel Review Criteria

#### 1. Need for the Project: 15 Points

The applicant will document the extent of need for this project, as demonstrated by: (1) The potential number or concentration of homeless individuals and homeless veterans in the proposed project area relative to other similar areas of jurisdiction; (2) the high rates of poverty and/or unemployment in the proposed project area as determined by the census or other surveys; and (3) the extent of gaps in the local infrastructure to effectively address the employment barriers that characterize the target population.

#### 2. Overall Strategy To Increase Employment and Retention: 40 Points

The application must include a description of the proposed approach to providing comprehensive employment and training services, including job training, job development, any employer commitments to hire, placement, and post-placement follow-up services. Applicants must address how they will target occupations in expanding industries, rather than declining industries. The supportive services to be provided as part of the strategy of

promoting job readiness and job retention must be indicated. The applicant must identify the local resources services and sources of training to be used for participants. A description of the relationship, if any, with other employment and training programs such as SESAs including (DVOP and LVER Programs), VWIP, other WIA programs, and Workforce Investment Boards or entities where in place, must be presented. Applicant must indicate how the activities will be tailored or responsive to the needs of homeless veterans. A participant flow chart may be used to show the sequence and mix of services.

**Note:** The applicant MUST complete the chart of proposed program outcomes to include participants served, entered employment/placements and job retention. (See Appendix D) Of the 40 points possible in the strategy to increase employment and retention, 5 points will be awarded to grant proposals that demonstrate the ability to maintain a six-month employment retention rate of 50 percent or greater.

#### 3. Quality and Extent of Linkages With Other Providers of Services to the Homeless and to Veterans: 10 Points

The application must provide information on the quality and extent of the linkages this program will have with other providers of services to benefit the homeless veterans in the local community outside of the HVRP grant. For each service, the applicant must specify who the provider is, the source of funding (if known), and the type of linkages/referral system established or proposed. [Describe, to the extent possible, how the project would fit into the community's continuum of care approach to respond to homelessness and any linkages to HUD, HHS or DVA programs or resources to benefit the proposed program.]

#### 4. Demonstrated Capability To Provide Required Program Services: 20 Points

The applicant must describe its capability to provide and operate employment and training programs and providing services to participants similar to those that are proposed under this solicitation. The applicant must address its capability and ability for timely startup of the program. The applicant should delineate its staff capability and ability to manage the financial aspects of a grant program, including a recent (within the last 12 months), financial statement or audit if available. Final or most recent technical reports for other relevant programs must be submitted if applicable. Because prior grant experience is not a requirement for this grant, some

applicants may not have any technical reports to submit.

#### 5. Quality of Overall Housing Strategy: 15 Points

The application must demonstrate how the applicant proposes to obtain or access housing resources for veterans in the program and entering the labor force. This discussion should specify the provisions made to access temporary, transitional, and permanent housing for participants through community resources, HUD, DVA lease, or other means. HVRP funds may not be used to purchase housing or vehicles.

## X. Post-Award Conference

A post-award conference will be held for those grantees awarded PY 2003 HVRP funds from the competition. It is expected to be held in May or June 2003. Up to two grantee representatives must be present; a fiscal and a program representative is recommended. The site of the Post-Award conference has not yet been determined, for planning and budgeting purposes, please plan on five days and use Washington, DC as the conference location. The conference will focus on providing information and assistance on reporting, record keeping, and grant requirements, and also include best practices from past projects. Costs associated with attending this conference for up to two grantee representatives will be allowed as long as they were incurred in accordance with Federal travel regulations. Such costs must be charged as administrative costs and reflected in the proposed budget.

## XI. Reporting Requirements

The grantee will submit the reports and documents listed below:

### A. Financial Reports

The grantee must report outlays, program income, and other financial information on a quarterly basis using SF 269A, Financial Status Report, Short Form. This form will cite the assigned grant number and be submitted to the appropriate State Director for Veterans' Employment and Training (DVET) no later than 30 days after the ending date of each Federal fiscal quarter (*i.e.*, October 30, January 30, April 30 and July 30) during the grant period.

### B. Program Reports

Grantees must submit a Quarterly Technical Performance Report 30 days after the end of each Federal fiscal quarter to the DVET that contains the following:

1. A comparison of actual accomplishments to established goals