

RULE IMPACT STATEMENT

TITLE 75. ATTORNEY GENERAL CHAPTER 15. STANDARDS AND CRITERIA FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT PROGRAMS

Subchapter 2. Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Programs [AMENDED]

Subchapter 5. Client Records and Confidentiality [AMENDED]

Subchapter 8. Technology [NEW]

Subchapter 13. Personnel and Volunteers [AMENDED]

Subchapter 17. Clients Rights [AMENDED]

(a) Purpose of the Proposed Rules: The Attorney General is required to adopt and promulgate rules and standards for certification of domestic violence and sexual assault programs in this state. These rules set forth the requirements which are necessary to provide services pursuant to 74 O.S. § 18p-1 et seq. Amendments are necessary to clarify core services, update protected class categories and create consistency in services and training requirements for staff and volunteers providing direct services. New standards will require policies and procedures regarding the use of technology. Additional amendments are necessary to update federal laws on confidentiality of client records and update waiver of confidentiality requirements.

(b) Classes Affected: All domestic violence and sexual assault programs that are currently certified or those that will make application to become certified by the Attorney General will be affected. These rules set forth the required components of such programs and the standards and criteria which will be used for certification of the programs.

(c) Persons Benefitted: All domestic violence and sexual assault victims needing services in the State of Oklahoma as well as the service providers will benefit by a clear understanding of the rules.

(d) Probable Economic Impact:

1. On Affected Classes: These rules will have no economic impact on affected classes other than resources necessary for programs to meet certification standards and criteria.

2. On Political Subdivisions: These rules will not have an economic impact on political subdivisions.

3. Description of fees and explanation/justification for each of the changes: The proposed amendments do not include any changes to fees incurred by domestic violence and sexual assault agencies.

(e) Probable Costs to the Agency: All expenses related to the creation of the Victims Services Unit come from appropriations to the Office of the Attorney General or federal grants. Thirteen (13) FTEs are currently dedicated to the Unit. No additional costs will ensue as a result of the amendments.

(f) Impact on Political Subdivisions: No cooperation from political subdivisions will be necessary to implement the program.

(g) Adverse Effect on Small Business: These rules will have no adverse impact on small business.

(h) Compliance Costs and Other Less Intrusive Methods: These methods are the least intrusive methods currently available since the oversight responsibility of domestic violence and sexual assault programs was transferred to the Office of the Attorney General on July 1, 2005.

(i) Effect on Public Health, Safety, and Environment: These rules do not necessarily have an effect on public health, safety, and environment. Positive effects are expected due to the fact that programs certified by the Attorney General provide direct services which ensure safety and ongoing resources to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

(j) Effect of Non-Implementation on Public Health, Safety, and Environment: Non-implementation of these rules will not necessarily affect public health, safety, and the environment per se, but may impact safety of clients in certified domestic violence and sexual assault programs.

(k) Date of Rule Impact Statement: February 16, 2021

Date modified: n/a

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