

RULE IMPACT STATEMENT

TITLE 75. ATTORNEY GENERAL

CHAPTER 25. STANDARDS AND CRITERIA FOR BATTERERS INTERVENTION PROGRAMS

Subchapter 3. Batterers Intervention [AMENDED]

Subchapter 9. Technology [NEW]

(a) Purpose of the Proposed Rules: The Attorney General is required to adopt and promulgate rules and standards for certification of batterers intervention programs (BIPs) 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 requirements for client records, including notice to clients of class credits upon termination, information available to victim representative or designee, and providing reports to coordinating agencies. New standards will require policies and procedures regarding the use of technology. Further, amendments and new provisions require statistical reports to be gathered and submitted each quarter and needed updates are made to protected classes of participants.

(b) Classes Affected: All batterers intervention programs that are currently certified or 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 clients of certified batterers intervention programs in the State of Oklahoma as well as the service providers will benefit by a clearer understanding of the rules. Victims will also benefit from the programs' focus on victim safety and batterer accountability.

(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 changes do not include any changes to fees incurred by batterers intervention programs.

(e) Probable Costs to the Agency: All expenses related to operating 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 transfer of the oversight responsibilities for batterers intervention programs 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 group intervention services that focus on victim safety and perpetrator accountability to court-ordered and voluntary clients attending a batterers intervention program.

(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 batterers intervention programs and victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

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

Date modified: n/a

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