

Services to Older Refugees Program (SORP)

Request for Proposals (RFP) 2025

Questions and Answers

Notice to All Applicants

- Application Submission Deadline: 2:00 pm on January 16, 2026.
- All applicants must be Prequalified in the Statewide Financial System (SFS) at time of application in order for OTDA to review the application. Applications submitted from organizations that are not prequalified will not be reviewed.
- The SFS helpdesk hours are 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, Monday – Friday. Contact information for SFS assistance is as follows: 518-457-7737 helpdesk@sfs.ny.gov
- All portions of the application should be submitted in SFS. All questions must be answered.
- Applicants are strongly encouraged to finish the application and submit it well before the deadline. It is recommended that applicants allow enough time to check for errors. Typical errors are not answering required questions or not uploading required documents. The system will not accept applications submitted after 2:00 pm on January 16, 2026.

General Information

Q: Is this a re-posting of a similar RFP that we [bid on] in 2024?

A: The SORP RFP currently available in SFS is a new opportunity. The grant cycle for this new procurement will be July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2031.

Program Information

Q: Please clarify implications for the current pause on Adjustment of Status processing for refugees and asylees, which will impact naturalization deliverables under this grant.

A: There is no requirement that an eligible SORP participant must hold Legal Permanent Resident (LPR) status in order to receive Naturalization Assistance. However, if a participant is not an LPR, certain allowable naturalization services, such as Application Assistance, may not be appropriate. In all cases, service needs should be determined through the completion of an Individual Naturalization Plan for each participant to identify which Naturalization Assistance services are appropriate to provide. Additional information regarding the Naturalization Assistance deliverable (including examples of allowable Naturalization Assistance activities) can be found on pages 11-12 and 20-21 of the SORP 2025 RFP.

SORP participants who are in need of assistance with adjustment of status applications may receive those services under the Case Management Services (CMS) - Legal Services deliverable, which is available to SORP participants within the first 60 months of their date of eligibility. Additional information regarding the CMS - Legal Services deliverable can be found on pages 11 and 19-20 of the RFP. Participants whose eligibility date is beyond 60-months may receive referrals for those services under the Services to Older Refugees Five-Years Post Arrival deliverable.

Q: What are examples of allowable services that would fall under the Interpretation deliverable?

A: Interpretation is defined on page 24 of the RFP as oral translation for parties conversing in different languages, including the immediate communication of meaning from one language into another.

Translation is defined on page 24 of the RFP as the act or process of converting written words from one language into their complete, accurate and intended meaning in another language resulting in a written document in the other language. It also includes sight translations of a written document orally into another language.

Interpretation and Translation Services (ITS) may be provided to the SORP participant during CMS, Naturalization Assistance, or Referrals. ITS may be provided to all SORP participants regardless of their eligibility date. All ITS activities related to providing services under this program are allowable, provided they fit within the definitions of interpretation and translation on page 24 of the RFP.

Forms to Upload

Q: Page 47 of the RFP, Part C, List of Attachments and Forms to Upload, lists the General Information Form. However, this is not in the list of links for attachments to upload in the SFS under Event Details > Event Questions section or in the Event Comments and Attachments pop up window. Please advise.

A: The General Information Form is not a required upload for the SORP 2025 RFP. Please disregard the mention of the form on page 47.