



August 19, 2014

**REQUEST FOR INTEREST (RFI)**  
**PARENTING EDUCATION AND SUPERVISED VISITATIONS**

The Fresno Superior Court (“Court”) is considering applying for a state grant to provide parenting education and supervised visitations to low-income, non-custodial parents. As part of this consideration, the court would like to assess the experience of local organizations in providing both these services as well as their interest in participating in a grant-funded project with the court. Should the court apply for and receive this grant, the information will assist the court in determining suitable service providers with which to partner.

Please read the background information thoroughly to determine if your organization is qualified for and interested in this grant project. As time is of the essence, the court must receive letters of interest including the questionnaire found on pages 3 and 4 of this announcement via e-mail or U.S. mail by **5 pm on Friday, August 29, 2014.**

Fresno Superior Court  
1100 Van Ness Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93724-0002  
EMAIL: [solicitations@fresno.courts.ca.gov](mailto:solicitations@fresno.courts.ca.gov)

Submit any questions to [solicitations@fresno.courts.ca.gov](mailto:solicitations@fresno.courts.ca.gov). All questions must be received via email and will be answered electronically. All questions and answers will be posted every two business days on <http://www.fresno.courts.ca.gov/procurement/>.

The goal of California’s Access to Visitation Grant Program is to promote and facilitate healthy relationships between non-custodial parents and their children. Through a competitive grant process, California trial courts will have the opportunity to submit proposals to the Judicial Council of California in September 2014 to provide services to non-custodial parents involved in custody and visitation court proceedings. Among other services, the grant program provides parenting education and supervised visitation, which the Court is considering providing as a package for certain types of cases. Grant funds will cover all or most of the program costs so that services can be provided at no cost or a significantly reduced cost to non-custodial parents with house-hold

incomes at or below the federal poverty level. This Access to Visitation grant cycle will cover three federal fiscal years: 2015–2016 through 2017–2018.

The Court seeks information and interest from community agencies in order to develop a list of qualified parent education and supervised visitation providers. To be considered, organizations must be qualified to provide parent education and supervised visitation and have experience in both. All programs and providers funded through California's Access to Visitation Grant Program must comply with Family Code section 3200.5 and the Judicial Council of California's Uniform Standards of Practice for Providers of Supervised Visitation. More information is available through the links below.

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/displaycode?section=fam&group=03001-04000&file=3200-3204>

[http://www.courts.ca.gov/cms/rules/index.cfm?title=standards&linkid=standard5\\_20](http://www.courts.ca.gov/cms/rules/index.cfm?title=standards&linkid=standard5_20)

Program services must be provided in a safe, accessible, pleasant, and child friendly facility by qualified staff that meets the training and other requirements specified in the Family Code and Judicial Council standard. While contracted service providers must ensure the comfort and safety of the children, the emphasis of this grant program is to serve non-custodial parents. For that reason, **parent education curriculum must exclusively focus on the needs of non-custodial parents.**

It is important that interested providers understand that if they were to be contracted under this grant program they would be required to assess non-custodial parents for program eligibility based on a number of factors including income. Contracted providers would also collect and maintain detailed program data in a dedicated MS Access database. They would be required to maintain thorough client records, participate in data audits, submit monthly statistical reports, and participate with the court in developing comprehensive biannual and year-end programmatic narrative reports. In addition, the provider budgeting and invoicing process is exacting. Monthly invoices require detailed documentation of pro rata salary, fringe, security, supply, rent, utility, insurance and other costs directly associated with providing program services. The grant does not pay indirect costs including but not limited to administrative oversight and staff or contracted bookkeeping, payroll, website maintenance or legal services.

If your organization meets the eligibility guidelines and is interested in being considered as a service provider if the Court applies for and receives this grant, please complete the questionnaire (pages 3 and 4 below). You may attach additional sheets if you need more space to answer questions 6 through 10. Submit the questionnaire with a cover letter noting any additional information you may wish to provide and signed by your organization's principal. The court must receive your information by August 29, 2014 to consider your interest in this grant process.