American Samoa Election Office Help America Vote Act – Election Security Program 2022 Program Narrative

The purpose and use of the 2022 Election Security Program funds awarded to American Samoa will contribute to the existing Election Security Program for which the 2020 and 2018 HAVA Election Security currently funds.

Very recently here in the territory, there was community spread of the Corona virus. The Action plan that was put in place for the 2020 General Election in the event there was community spread, which was researched and formulated with CARES funding from the EAC, will now go into effect with minor adjustments in order to comply with the American Samoa Government's territorial proclamation with regard to containing the spread of the virus. Preparation for the 2022 Midterm Elections will follow the Covid Action Plan and this funding will be allocated in accordance with the aforementioned plan.

Voting Processes \$40,000

In preparation for the 2022 Midterm Election, the Election office will allocate \$40,000 to voting processes to include any temporary personnel we will hire to train and carry out both local and offisland absentee voting.

The election office will also purchase necessary equipment in order to carry out duties to be performed during the voting process with regard to the safety and security of our employees and the community of American Samoa.

Cyber and Physical Security

\$60,000

Physical Security will be a major necessity in the upcoming election as we practice social distancing and consistent monitoring of the traffic through the Election Office. Allocating \$60,000 to securing not only the Election compound but will be used to secure polling station on election day. This will cover hiring and training of additional Security Officer and training for all personnel regarding the safety and security of not only our employees but all the voters of American Samoa.

Voting Education \$15,000

In the 2018 and 2020 HAVA State Plan for American Samoa, the Outreach program plays a major role in getting the necessary information out into the community on how election will be administered. With the Covid Action plan in effect for the 2022 Midterm Election, it is vital for our office to utilize any and all sources of information output to inform all the voters of American Samoa on this year's election administration. Allocating \$10,000 to Voter Education, specifically the Outreach program is not only vital but necessary.

Accessibility \$30,000

In addition to the HAVA funded Outreach program, the Special Needs Assistance Program also funded by HAVA and the EAC also requires additional temporary staff as well as the proper training for these election officials. Under the Covid Action plan which we are currently operating under, our office seeks to be more present and accessible while in compliance with the restrictions currently in place by the American Samoa Government. Additional personnel, safety materials, and more visibility across the territory with these programs will require additional funding thus the allocation of \$30,000 to this category.

Other \$55,000

Intergovernmental Personnel Costs: Due to the method of voting the territory of American Samoa practices, (manual voting with paper ballots) securing and transport of ballot boxed to the Election headquarters requires police escort for the security purposes and ensuring the ballot boxes are handled according to the proper chain of custody.

Transportation: Once local absentee voting opens, transportation is vital for the election officials to execute absentee voting for disabled voters. Renting vehicles for this purpose incurs significant costs but the outcome of the program is always a positive one. Travel between the different islands that make up the territory is also necessary and will require a portion of this allocated funding.

Quarantine and Isolation: In order to protect ourselves as well as the voting population, the Covid Action Plan requires that the election officials quarantine and isolate themselves. As we will be dealing with and interacting with the voting population, we will isolate ourselves from our families in order to protect them and ensure we are making every effort to prevent further Covid spread. A secluded inn 5 minutes away from the Election Office compound has agreed to hold one 6 room building for Election Office use.

Attached is a copy of the American Samoa Election Office Action Plan that is subject to revision as we navigate the best ways to administer the 2022 Midterm Election amidst the community spread of Covid-19. We are confident that the administering of the 2022 Midterm Election will be a success, acknowledging the financial support of the Election Assistance Commission.

The allocation of the \$200,000 award as shown in the table will be used accordingly and the American Samoa Election Office assures the EAC that if any changes to allocation of funds in necessary, notice will be given to the EAC before any action is taken.

**This narrative will be inserted into the American Samoa State Plan as an addition to the 2018 and 2020 HAVA Election Security Program.

EAC HAVA GRANT - BUDGET WORKSHEET

GRANTEE NAME: AWARD TYPE:

Election Office of American Samoa FORMULA

MATCH %: INDIRECT COST % (IF APPLIED): INDIRECT COST TYPE: 20% 13%

PROJECT PERIOD START DATE:

3/23/2018

PROJECT PERIOD END DATE: Until Expended

SECTION A: GRANT BUDGET	YEAR 1 - (2018 ES)	YEAR 2 - (2020 ES)	YEAR 3 - (2022 ES)	TOTAL:		
FEDERAL AMOUNT	\$ 600,000.00	\$ 600,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 1,400,000.00		
NON FEDERAL MATCH				\$ -		
TOTAL:				\$ 1,400,000.00		

SECTION B: BUDGET CATEGORIES (Federal Only)	Voti	ng Equipment	Voti	ng Processes	Vo	oter Registration Systems	Elect	tion Auditing	Cyber and sical Security	Vote	er Education	A	ccessibility	Other (Provide cription in this box)		her (Provide otion in this box)	TOTALS	% Fed Total
PERSONNEL	\$	100,000.00	\$	30,000.00	\$	50,000.00			\$ 130,000.00			\$	20,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$	100,000.00	\$ 460,000.00	33%
FRINGE RELATED TO SALARY									\$ 5,000.00								\$ 5,000.00	0%
EQUIPMENT	\$	80,000.00	\$	10,000.00	\$	300,000.00			\$ 110,000.00	\$	5,000.00	\$	5,000.00				\$ 510,000.00	36%
TRAINING					\$	25,000.00			\$ 90,000.00	\$	10,000.00	\$	5,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	voter e	education	\$ 180,000.00	13%
CONTRACTUAL																	\$ -	0%
OTHER (Describe)														\$ 15,000.00	\$	220,000.00	\$ 235,000.00	17%
OTHER (Describe)														\$ 10,000.00	Rental	Property (Inn)	\$ 10,000.00	1%
SUBGRANTS																	\$ -	0%
TOTAL DIRECT COSTS																	\$ -	0%
INDIRECT COSTS (if applied)																	\$ -	0%
TOTAL PROGRAM BUDGET	\$	180,000.00	\$	40,000.00	\$	375,000.00	\$	-	\$ 335,000.00	\$	15,000.00	\$	30,000.00	\$ 105,000.00	\$	320,000.00	\$ 1,400,000.00	100%
PERCENTAGE BY CATEGORY		13%		3%		27%		0%	24%		1%		2%	8%		23%		

SECTION C: NON FEDERAL MATCH RESOURCES					
SOURCE DESCRIPTION	STATE FUNDS	3	OTHER		TOTAL:
				\$	-
				\$	-
				\$	-
				\$	-
	\$	- \$		- \$	-