

**441—155.3(235A) Awarding of grants.** In any year in which funding is appropriated or otherwise made available for the child abuse prevention program, the contractor shall solicit new grant project proposals or renew existing projects when eligible and in accordance with all applicable state and federal procurement laws. Funds for the grant projects shall be applied for and received by community-based volunteer coalitions or councils. Grant projects may be awarded to fund the establishment or expansion of community-based prevention projects or educational programs for the prevention of child abuse and neglect.

**155.3(1)** The advisory committee shall establish specific program goals for each fiscal year in which program funds are appropriated and new contracts are issued. These program goals shall address the current and emerging needs of children and families throughout the state.

**155.3(2)** The contractor shall assist the department in widely disseminating a request for grant project proposals consistent with all state and federal procurement requirements. The request for grant project proposals shall fully describe the child abuse prevention program goals and the procedures for applying for and receiving program funds.

**155.3(3)** All grant project proposals shall be reviewed by an independent review committee in accordance with all applicable state and federal procurement laws. The contractor shall assist the department in the review and shall consult with the advisory committee on grant project award recommendations. The department will consider the recommendations of the committee but will have final decision-making authority on the awarding of grantee contracts. The committee shall advise the department as to the contractor's compliance with the established program goals.

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