



**BJA**  
Bureau of Justice Assistance  
U.S. Department of Justice



the NATIONAL REENTRY  
RESOURCE CENTER

# Applying for the FY17 SCA Statewide Adult Recidivism Reduction (SRR) Strategic Planning Program Solicitation

June 22, 2017

Brought to you by the National Reentry Resource Center and the Bureau of Justice Assistance, U.S. Department of Justice



# OVERVIEW

- 01** SRR Program Overview
- 02** Program Requirements & Expectations
- 03** Apply for a FY17 SRR Planning Grant
- 04** Questions and Answers

# Speakers

**DeAnna Hoskins, Senior Policy Advisor**

BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

**Renee Snead, Reentry Services Unit Manager of Operations**

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SUPERVISION

**Andrea Lee, Policy Analyst**

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS JUSTICE CENTER

**Kerwin Henderson, Policy Analyst**

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS JUSTICE CENTER

# Poll of Attendees

*We'd like to find out more about who's on the line...*

**In your right hand column at the bottom, you will see two questions:**

- 1. Please indicate the type of organization you represent:**
  - **State correctional agency**
  - **State community correctional agency**
  - **State Administering Agency**
  - **Other**
  
- 2. Choose from the list which state you represent**

# The Second Chance Act

- Public Law 110-199 signed into law on April 8, 2008
  - Authorizes grants to state, local, and tribal governments and nonprofit organizations to support programs, policies, and practices that reduce recidivism
- 

## Statewide Recidivism Reduction Grant

The Second Chance Act Comprehensive Statewide Adult Recidivism Reduction (SRR) Program was uniquely designed by the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), to help executive branch policymakers and state corrections departments plan and implement system-wide reforms to reduce recidivism.

<https://csgjusticecenter.org/nrrc/second-chance-act-recidivism-reduction-grant-program/>

# SRR Program Phases

## Phase I: Planning and Capacity Building

Up to 8 awards of \$100,000

Must complete planning phase to be eligible for Phase II



## Phase II: Implementation

Up to 3 Implementation awards, totaling \$1,000,000 each in FY18  
[Possible supplemental awards of \$1 million each in FY19 and FY20]

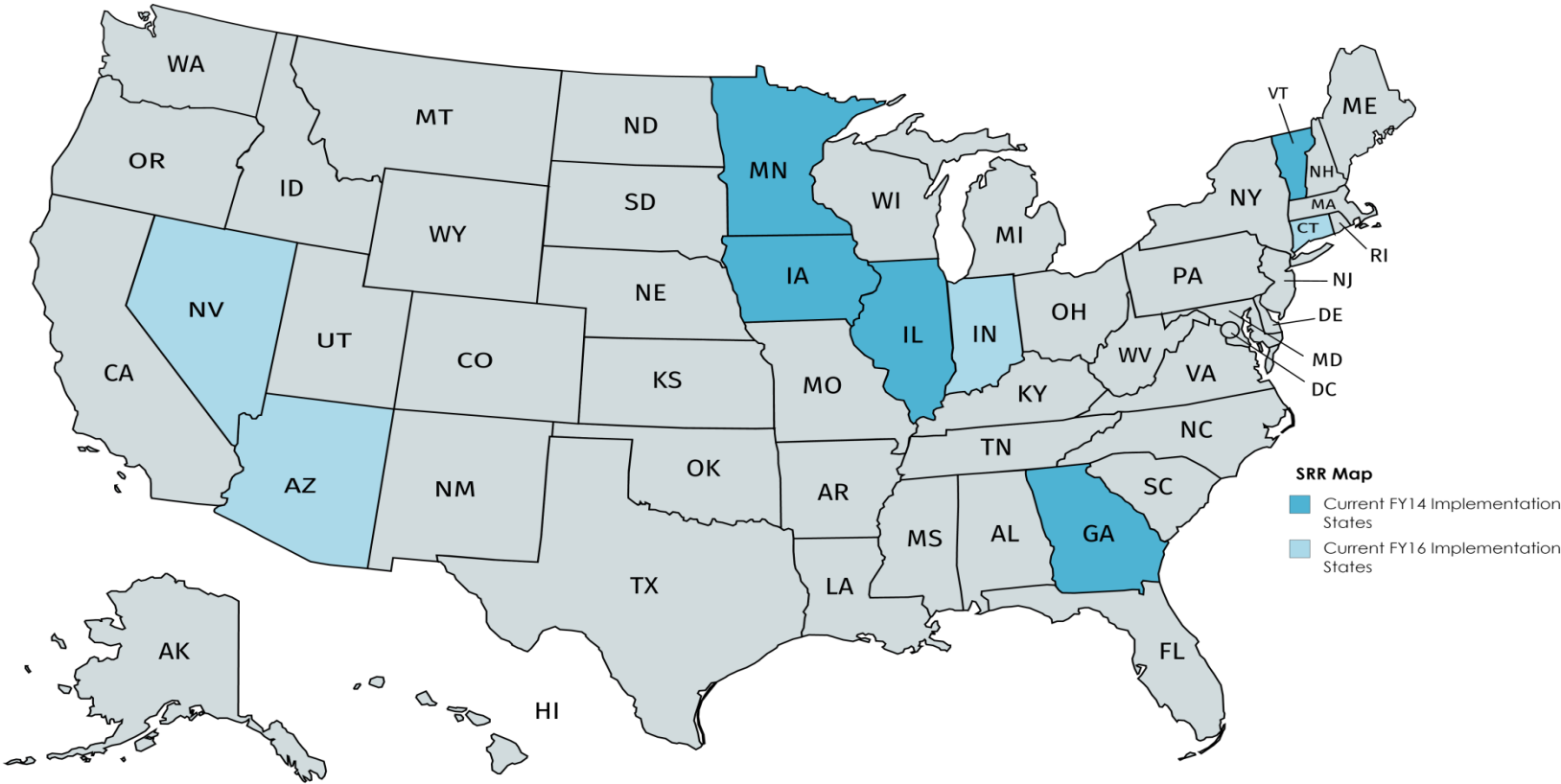
Competitive, not all planning grantees will be awarded implementation funds

# SRR Strategic Planning Objectives

- Identify drivers of recidivism in the state
- Identify a target population and recidivism reduction goals for the state
- Review the alignment of existing corrections programs and practices with evidence-based practices
- Develop a strategic plan to meet statewide recidivism reduction goals using evidence-based practices

# Statewide Recidivism Reduction Grant Program

## 9 AWARDS ACROSS THE COUNTRY





# Four Pillars of SRR

based on what we have learned



# Poll of Attendees

*In which area of the 4 pillars do you think your state has the greatest need?*

1. Workforce Development
2. Risk/Needs Assessments
3. Continuous Quality Improvement
4. Action Research

# Applicants

- ❑ Limited to state correctional agencies (state departments of corrections or community corrections) or State Administering Agencies.
- ❑ Agencies from states that were awarded SCA SRR grants in FY2015 are not eligible to apply.

# Award Information

## **Award Amount and Length**

Up to 8 awards of up to \$100,000 each for a 12-month project period beginning on October 1, 2017.

## **Future Year Funding: Implementation Awards**

BJA will invite states that receive FY2017 awards to apply for implementation funding as early as FY 2018. Pending available funds, BJA anticipates making up to 3 implementation awards, of \$1 million each, with possible supplemental awards of \$1 million each in FY2019 and FY2020.

## **Match requirement**

50/50 match, at least 25% cash. (See pages 11-12 of the solicitation for details.)

# How to Apply

1. Acquire a unique entity identifier (DUNS number)
2. Acquire registration with the System of Award Management (SAM) – must be updated/renewed annually
3. Acquire an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) and a Grants.gov username and password
4. Acquire confirmation for the AOR for the E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC)
5. Search for the funding opportunity on Grants.gov CFDA#16.812 titled Second Chance Act Statewide Adult Recidivism Reduction Strategic Planning Program and funding opportunity BJA2017-11562
6. Submit a valid application consistent with the solicitation by following the directions in Grants.gov

**Deadline: Submitted through Grants.gov by 11:59 pm Eastern time on July 6, 2017**

# Application

Project Abstract

Statement of the Problem/Description of the Issue (20%)

Project Design and Implementation (40%)

Capabilities and Competencies (25%)

Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's  
Performance Measures (5%)

Budget (10%)

Additional Attachments

# Budget

## *Complete, Cost Effective, and Allowable*

- Demonstrate maximizing cost effectiveness of grant expenditures, reflecting goals of the project
- Include appropriate % of total grant for research, data collection, performance measurement, and performance assessment
- Budget funding for travel—for a team of three to attend one meeting for three days in Washington, DC

# Additional Attachments

- Letter from Applicant Agency Executive
- Project Timeline
- Position Description(s) and Resume(s)
- Letters of Support/Memoranda of Agreement
- Applicant Disclosure of Pending Applications
- Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity
- Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation
- Request and Justification for Employee Compensation; Waiver



# Eleven Mandatory Requirements

1. Reentry Strategic Plan, with measurable annual and 5-year performance outcomes—50% reduction in the rate of recidivism over a 5-year period
2. Reentry Implementation Schedule and Sustainability Plan
3. Establishment of and ongoing engagement of a Reentry Task Force that will look at ways to pool resources and funding streams, identify and address state barriers to effective reentry (including policies and procedures)
4. Discussion of the roles and certification of involvement of other agencies and organizations that will join the coordination and collaboration efforts

# Eleven Mandatory Requirements (continued)

5. Evidence of collaboration with agencies offering supportive services, as well as law enforcement
6. Role of corrections and community corrections, and Letters of support
7. Explicit support of the Chief Executive Officer
8. Description of evidence-based methodology and outcome measures used for the evaluation
9. Explanation of how the project can be broadly replicated
10. Analysis of statutory, regulatory, rules-based, and practice-based hurdles to reintegration
11. Baseline recidivism rate

(Pages 6-7 in the solicitation)

# Polling Question

*Have you previously applied for a Second  
Chance Act Grant?*

Yes

No

# Examples from SRR Grantees



Connecticut Department of Corrections FY16: Developed their scope of work with a researcher to enhance policies in community supervision practices



Nevada Department of Corrections FY16: Established the Nevada Risk Assessment (NRAS) fields in their Management Information System (MIS) to automate the NRAS and its use across the state



Arizona Department of Corrections FY16: Contracted with Arizona State University to begin training 200 CO III's and all CO IV's in Motivational Interviewing



Illinois Department of Corrections FY14: Integrated risk and needs assessment into treatment decisions

# Georgia Department of Corrections



- Georgia's Prisoner Reentry Initiative was used as a foundation for implementation of SRR
- A key component of Georgia's Statewide Recidivism Reduction Strategy is building resource capacity to connect to improve reentry
- Through action-oriented partnership with researcher, GA developed soft metrics website

# Planning & Capacity Building

## Successful applicants:

- ✓ Engage in strategic planning
- ✓ Include data analysis to determine drivers of recidivism
- ✓ Undertake a review of type/quality of existing correctional and reentry programming
- ✓ Undertake a review of state's reentry and supervision policies/practices for adherence to core correctional practices
- ✓ Develop a sound organizational infrastructure which should result in desired reduction in overall recidivism

The process for developing this strategic plan will be guided by a [Planning and Implementation Guide](#), provided by BJA's technical assistance provider, the National Reentry Resource Center (NRRC), coordinated by The Council of State Governments Justice Center. This guide will help ensure that grantees meet the requirements for the planning and capacity-building phase.

# Planning Guide

## EXERCISE 1: DOCUMENTING THE PLANNING TEAM'S STRUCTURE AND EXPECTATIONS

### Instructions

Please answer the following questions about the composition of your planning team and the planning process for the grant period.

1. Will an existing decision-making entity be used for the SRR planning process? If not, how will this planning team communicate/coordinate with other entities that are currently engaged in criminal justice/reentry planning for the state?  
**Answer:**

2. List the members of the planning team and related details.

| Name | Title | Organization | Specific Role on Planning Team | Has this agency formally worked with the state corrections agency before? |
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*Note: BJA acknowledges that some states will utilize existing reentry councils or task forces. If this is the case, please still list the members of the existing group that will be utilized.*

3. Who chairs the planning team?  
**Answer:**

4. Does the planning team include subcommittees or working groups (and, if so, what is the purpose of each of these groups)? Please attach an organizational chart for the planning team.  
**Answer:**

5. Have you developed MOUs or LOAs for the planning team members? If so, please attach them.  
**Answer:**

6. How often will the planning team meet?  
**Answer:**

7. Who coordinates the planning team's meeting schedule, agenda, and logistics?  
**Answer:**

8. Are there subgroups or subcommittees of the planning team that meet more regularly? If so, please list members of each subcommittee and indicate how they will keep the larger planning team informed and engaged in their work and planning process.  
**Answer:**

9. What is the planning team's vision statement?  
**Answer:**

10. What is the planning team's mission statement?  
**Answer:**

## SECTION 2: USING A DATA-DRIVEN APPROACH FOR RECIDIVISM REDUCTION GOAL-SETTING AND PLANNING

### SECTION OVERVIEW

The purpose of the SRR program is recidivism through evidence-based, programs, and practices. As such, it to begin the planning process by recidivism rate, identifying the factors and setting ambitious but attainable expects that applicants for are able to measure these key data

**BJA's Expectations for SRR Phase I: Planning and Capacity-Building**

*Provide a clear statewide definition of recidivism, an explanation of how that rate is calculated on a regular basis and reported to policymakers periodically so that changes can be routinely and effectively tracked over time, and demonstrate the capability to access and obtain data. Identify a realistic, but ambitious, target for reducing recidivism within a 2-year period. Recidivism can be defined in accordance with the definition utilized by the applicant agency.*

*The description of a target population should be based on documented groups of offenders that significantly contribute to increased recidivism rates.*

Source: <https://www.bja.gov/Funding/15SCARecidivismReduction501.pdf>

- This section of the P&I Guide is grantees use data to
1. Define and measure the
  2. Understand some of the key rate;
  3. Identify a target population for changes based upon those key
  4. Set recidivism reduction goals for the target population and statewide recidivism rates.

to help states lower targeted policies, is important for grantees assessing their statewide that may affect that rate, reduction goals. BJA implementation funding points.

designed to help

statewide recidivism rate; drivers of the recidivism

Many state corrections agencies already monitor the types of data mentioned in this section. However, some states will need to undertake new data analyses to complete this section of the guide. Support from the NRRC is available to help grantees with this data collection and analysis process.

### THE IMPORTANCE OF GOAL- AND DATA-DRIVEN PLANNING

#### Defining and Measuring the Statewide Recidivism Rate

# National Reentry Resource Center Reducing Recidivism Brief

## REDUCING RECIDIVISM STATES DELIVER RESULTS

JUNE 2017

Efforts to reduce recidivism are grounded in the ability to accurately and consistently collect and analyze various forms of data. To that end, states have developed increasingly sophisticated and comprehensive recidivism tracking methods. By improving the accuracy and consistency of data collection, using more timely measures, and expanding the types of recidivism metrics that are tracked as well as the populations to which these metrics are applied, states are now better positioned to understand and respond to recidivism trends. This brief highlights seven states in which recidivism has

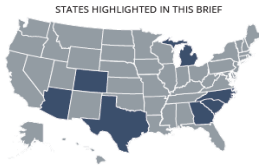
significantly decreased according to several different measures. These same states have also experienced reductions in violent crime rates over the last decade. The recidivism data included in this brief is not meant to be compared state by state; it is meant to show individual examples of state successes across various recidivism measures.

### Methodology

This brief uses publicly available data from state agencies to identify achievements in recidivism reduction. Two types of recidivism are presented in this document—cohort-based and revocation-based. **Cohort-based recidivism** is measured by tracking a set group of people over a specified time period. This type of recidivism is always presented as a rate representing the proportion of people who recidivate as compared to the whole cohort. For example, a cohort-based analysis of prison releases may track all people released in 2010 and measure the rate of returns to prison within three years. If there were 100 people in the 2010 release cohort and 32 of them returned to prison within three years, the recidivism rate for this cohort would be 32 percent.

Cohort-based recidivism tends to be a less timely indicator than revocation-based recidivism due to the time period necessary for tracking. In the example above that uses a cohort of people released from prison in 2010, it would not be possible to calculate a three-year recidivism rate until after the end of 2013. Compounded by the time needed to conduct the analysis and publish results, this three- to four-year lag is commonly present for recidivism rates of any given cohort. Despite this lag, cohort-based recidivism is an important measure because it indicates how well a system is doing at limiting people's continued criminal justice involvement.

**Revocation-based recidivism** is measured by identifying people who are on either probation or parole who have had their supervision status terminated either due to a technical violation of the conditions of their supervision (e.g., failing a drug test or missing an appointment with a supervision officer) or because they were arrested and convicted of a new crime.



- A recent publication from the National Reentry Resource Center profiling seven states in which recidivism has significantly decreased over the last decade according to several different measures
- The brief highlights data on people under community supervision from 7 states for a comprehensive picture of recidivism
- Includes a sampling of recent policy changes that have taken place in each of these states and details some of the Second Chance Act grant awards received by various agencies and organizations in each state

To read this brief, please visit: [nationalreentryresourcecenter.org](http://nationalreentryresourcecenter.org)



# Questions and Answers?

For technical assistance with submitting an application, contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726 or 606-545-5035, or via email to [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov). The Grants.gov Support Hotline operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.

For assistance with any other requirement of this solicitation, contact the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) Response Center: toll-free at 800-851-3420; via TTY at 301-240-6310 (hearing impaired only); email [grants@ncjrs.gov](mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov); fax to 301-240-5830; or web chat at <https://webcontact.ncjrs.gov/ncjchat/chat.jsp>. The NCJRS Response Center hours of operation are 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. eastern time, Monday through Friday, and 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. eastern time on the solicitation close date.



# the NATIONAL REENTRY RESOURCE CENTER

## Thank You

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