

SECOND CHANCE ACT: INNOVATIONS IN SUPERVISION INITIATIVE

Purpose of Program

The purpose of the Innovations in Supervision Initiative (ISI) is to provide state, tribal, and local community corrections agencies with information, resources, and training and technical assistance on ways to improve supervision capacity and partnerships with other justice agencies to prevent recidivism and reduce crime in their jurisdictions.

ISI is a carve out of the SCA appropriation and has been part of the SCA suite of programs since fiscal year (FY) 2012. Since then, more than 57 awards have been made, totaling \$43 million.

Eligibility

Eligible applicants include:

- State governments
- City or township governments
- County governments
- Native American tribal governments (federally recognized)

Funding Amount

Historically, awards range from \$715,000 to \$1,000,000.

Awardees have access to \$200,000–\$250,000 of those funds during an initial 6-month planning period. The full funds are released following approval of a detailed implementation plan.

Award Period

The total period of performance is 36 months. The first 6 months are a planning period followed by 30 months of implementation activities.

Allowable Uses of Funds

Funding may be used to support capacity-building activities, including staff training, meeting the rehabilitative and supervision needs of the population, assessing and addressing gaps and/or quality of service provision, standardizing new or existing strategies to promote replication and scaling, and developing and implementing performance metrics.

See the DOJ Grants Financial Guide at:

- <https://ojp.gov/financialguide/DOJ/index.htm>.

Signed into law in April 2008 and reauthorized in 2018, the [Second Chance Act](#) (SCA) aims to enhance public safety by reducing recidivism and improving outcomes for people returning from prisons, jails, and juvenile facilities. The SCA authorizes the awarding of federal grants, aligned with the requirements of the legislation, to eligible entities to provide reentry services and programs, including employment and housing assistance, victim support, and substance abuse treatment. Additionally, SCA funds may be used to support general system improvements. The U.S. Department of Justice's (DOJ's) Office of Justice Programs (OJP) funds and administers SCA grants for adults via the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) and for juveniles via the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP).

Feature Grantee Highlights

Judiciary Courts of the State of Arizona (FY 2020)

- Developed and administered virtual statewide training — Effective Practices in Correctional Settings-II (EPICS-II) — for probation staff, with quality assurance measures to ensure fidelity.

Cuyahoga County (OH) Common Pleas Court (FY 2019)

- Established a High-Risk Domestic Violence Court where a specially trained, multidisciplinary team of

justice system professionals work collaboratively to improve victim safety and reduce the risk of violence and homicide by providing resources for victims and intense monitoring and behavioral interventions for offenders.

Connecticut (CT) Judicial Branch and Central CT State University (FY 2012)

- Co-developed scripts to provide officers with a practical approach to restructure clients' criminal thinking. Reduced recidivism among medium- and high-risk probationers.

Other Information to Highlight

Some of the most successful ISI programs:

- Use **technology** to enhance access to services.
- Provide ongoing opportunities for enhanced **training**.
- Utilize **evidence-based** supervision models.
- **Collocate** supervision, mental health, and substance use services.

ABOUT BJA

BJA helps to make American communities safer by strengthening the nation's criminal justice system: its grants, training and technical assistance, and policy development services provide state, local, and tribal governments with the cutting-edge tools and best practices they need to reduce violent and drug-related crime, support law enforcement, and combat victimization. To learn more about BJA, visit bjaj.ojp.gov or follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/DOJBJA) and Twitter (@DOJBJA). BJA is a component of the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs.

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