



The Cabinet-level Reentry Council is working to enhance community safety and well-being, assist those returning from prison and jail in becoming productive citizens, and save taxpayer dollars by lowering the direct and collateral costs of incarceration.

Juvenile Reentry

On any given day, approximately 57,000 youth are confined in juvenile detention and correctional facilities and hundreds of thousands more are on probation. This contact with the juvenile justice system has a significant impact on adolescents' development and their prospects for long-term success. Thus, juvenile reentry encompasses more than just aftercare for youth returning to the community from secure confinement, but is also a process that begins the moment youth come into contact with the juvenile justice system, helping them transition from system supervision to a crime-free, productive adulthood.

Youth typically face a host of challenges to making this transition successful, including receiving the necessary support from their families, peers, and communities; enrolling in an appropriate educational and/or vocational setting; maintaining a continuity of treatment for mental health and/or substance use disorders; and transitioning to adulthood and economic independence. Jurisdictions are more likely to reduce reoffending and improve other key outcomes for youth by adopting and effectively implementing the integrated set of policies and practices demonstrated as effective in helping youth to overcome these challenges.

The Interagency Juvenile Reentry Committee is committed to supporting jurisdictions and the field at large to improve existing reentry efforts, as well as the coordination and effectiveness of federal initiatives accordingly.

Accomplishments to Date

- The Department of Justice's most recent Second Chance Act solicitations are designed to maximize the impact of these grants by placing a greater emphasis on the planning and implementing of reentry improvement initiatives and comprehensive reentry systems reforms, and on the adoption, integration, and effective implementation of the policies and practices demonstrated by research to reduce reoffending.
- The Department of Labor supported a series of grant programs designed to provide job training and employment services for youth involved with the juvenile justice system, as well as young adults who were formerly incarcerated. These grant programs include the department's Face Forward/Intermediary, NGYCP/Job Challenge, Training-to-Work and Linking to Employment Activities Pre-Release or LEAP initiatives.
- The U.S. Attorney General and Secretary of Education jointly issued a correctional education guidance package in December 2014 that focused on the need to provide high-quality educational opportunities to youth in juvenile justice long-term secure care settings. The package highlights legal guidance related to civil rights of youth in confinement, applicability of the Individuals with Disabilities Act, and access to Pell Grants for youth in confinement. It also provides a set of fundamental principles for building high-quality educational programs in juvenile justice facilities. These principles are in the areas of institutional climate, resources, staffing, instruction, and transitional supports.
- The Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services published [Reentry MythBusters](#) on correctional education and Medicaid eligibility for youth in confinement.
- The Department of Education, Title I, Part D program office has calculated baseline measures for new leading indicators for state and local agency reentry education outcomes, and has begun asking state and local education agencies to account for performance on them when it is below (or above) the national average. These indicators include the percentage of long-term students who are pre- and post-tested in math and reading if they are served for 90 days or more and the percentage of

youth enrolling in a local school district and earning high school course credits up to 90 days after exit whether they were in a short-term detention facility or longer-term correctional facility.

- The Department of Justice’s Office of Justice Programs hosted the Fourth Annual Summit on Youth Violence

Prevention. Representatives from the 15 cities in the National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention attended sessions designed to help participants advance a comprehensive, evidence-based approach to reducing youth violence, including upon returning to the community after confinement.

Agenda Moving Forward

Promote States’ Efforts to Track Youth Outcomes

Reentry Council agencies will provide more robust standards and guidance on recidivism and other key youth outcomes that jurisdictions should track, and will help increase the capacity of jurisdictions to collect, analyze, report, and use this data to guide their reentry initiatives.

Highlight “What Works” to Reduce Recidivism and Improve Youth Outcomes

Reentry Council agencies will promote the core strategies proven by research to improve juvenile reentry outcomes, and provide tools to help jurisdictions use these strategies to inform and effectively implement their own reentry policies and practices.

Address Reentry Knowledge and Resource Coordination Gaps

Reentry Council agencies will identify significant knowledge and resource coordination gaps that are impeding efforts to reduce recidivism and improve key youth reentry outcomes, and will collaboratively design and test research-based practice models to address these gaps.

Strengthen Policy and Funding Coordination

Reentry Council agencies will enhance their commitment to interagency coordination through joint funding initiatives that address priority reentry reform needs. The Departments of Education and Justice are partnering to fund a demonstration program, for example, to improve correctional education and post-release educational/vocational outcomes for juveniles.

Key Resources (Juvenile Reentry)

Reentry Council

<http://csgjusticecenter.org/nrrc/projects/firc/>

Reentry MythBusters

<http://csgjusticecenter.org/nrrc/projects/mythbusters/>

National Reentry Resource Center—Juvenile Reentry

<http://csgjusticecenter.org/youth/juvenile-reentry/>

Five Emerging Practices in Juvenile Reentry

<http://csgjusticecenter.org/youth/posts/five-emerging-practices-in-juvenile-reentry/>

Crimesolutions.gov—Juvenile Justice

<http://www.crimesolutions.gov/TopicDetails.aspx?ID=5>

Correctional Education Guidance Package

<http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/correctional-education/index.html>