

BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE FACT SHEET

SECOND CHANCE ACT PAY FOR SUCCESS INITIATIVE: OUTCOMES-BASED CONTRACTING TO LOWER RECIDIVISM AND HOMELESSNESS

The [Second Chance Act](#) (SCA) authorizes federal grants for vital programs and systems reform aimed at improving the reentry process. It was first signed into law in 2008. In 2018, the Second Chance Reauthorization Act built on and strengthened the landmark legislation. SCA provides funding to state, local, and tribal governments and nonprofit organizations to reduce recidivism and improve outcomes for youth and adults leaving detention and incarceration. The U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs (OJP) funds and administers SCA grants. Within OJP, the Bureau of Justice Assistance awards SCA grants serving adults.



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Purpose of Program

Pay for Success is outcomes-based contracting (OBC) that ties payment for services to reaching agreed-upon program goals. This grant program supports OBC for reentry services and permanent supportive housing and has two categories:

- Category 1: Performance-based and outcomes-based contracting for reentry services.
- Category 2: Performance-based and outcomes-based contracting for permanent supportive housing (PSH).

Eligibility

The following entities are eligible to apply:

- State and county governments.
- Federally recognized tribal governments.
- Public housing authorities and American Indian housing authorities.

Objectives

- Enhancing already established outcomes-based contracts to provide individualized reentry services (Category 1), or entering into OBC to provide evidence-based PSH to people with substance use disorders who have been incarcerated (Category 2).



Featured Grantee Highlights

The **Missouri Department of Corrections** is an FY 2019 grantee offering a holistic, integrated reentry program. It will provide pre- and post-release services to approximately 180 individuals in St. Louis assessed as having a high risk of recidivism, with a focus on employment, housing, desistance, and program success.

In Arizona, **Pima County Housing First** (PCHF) received an FY 2021 grant to expand a pilot program by

including performance pay adjustments and adopting another risk and needs assessment tool to identify people with the greatest need among referrals. In analyzing data to define a target population, PCHF found racial disparities in who received services compared to who was incarcerated. The organization is working with its housing continuum-of-care partners to revamp the prioritization process and address these disparities.

- Managing the outcomes-based reentry services (Category 1) or PSH (Category 2) contract, including data collection and reporting, performance and outcome reviews, on- and off-site monitoring, outcomes validation, and incentive payment approvals.
- Ensuring that government staff and service providers have adequate training on OBC procurement, PSH, data collection, and outcomes validation.

Funding Amount

A maximum of **\$1,000,000** for each award.

Award Period

54 months

ABOUT BJA

BJA helps America's state, local, and tribal jurisdictions reduce and prevent crime, lower recidivism, and promote a fair and safe criminal justice system. BJA provides a wide range of resources—including grants, funding, and training and technical assistance—to law enforcement, courts and corrections agencies, treatment providers, reentry practitioners, justice information sharing professionals, and community-based partners to address chronic and emerging criminal justice challenges nationwide. To learn more about BJA, visit bja.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.