

Pell Reinstatement 2023: Preparing for Implementation

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Vera Institute of Justice

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What is the Office of Justice Programs?

- The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) provides grant funding, training, research, and statistics to the criminal justice community.
- OJP is one of three grant-making components of the Department of Justice along with the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) and the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS).

Office of Justice Programs

BJA - Bureau of Justice Assistance

BJS - Bureau of Justice Statistics

NIJ - National Institute of Justice

OVC - Office for Victims of Crime

OJJDP - Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

SMART - Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking



U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance

BJA works with communities, governments, and nonprofit organizations to reduce crime, recidivism, and unnecessary confinement, and promote a safe and fair criminal justice system.



**BJA Director
Karhlton F. Moore**

Five Major Strategic Focus Areas

Improve public safety through measures which build trust with the community and ensure an effective criminal justice system

Reduction in recidivism and prevention of unnecessary confinement and interactions with the criminal justice system

Integration of evidence-based, research-driven strategies into the day-to-day operations of BJA and the programs BJA administers and supports

Increasing program effectiveness with a renewed emphasis on data analysis, information sharing, and performance management

Ensuring organizational excellence through outstanding administration and oversight of all of BJA's strategic investments

Fund – Invest diverse funding streams to accomplish goals.

Educate – Research, develop, and deliver what works.

Equip – Create tools and products to build capacity and improve outcomes.

Partner – Consult, connect, and convene.

Track News and Updates on Social Media

#ReentryMatters

#SecondChanceMonth

#SecondChanceMonth23



Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) Provider

- Assist grantees to focus on education, employment, and reentry
- Connect grantees to peer networks, best practices, and resources

Agenda



Introductions



Opening Remarks: Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Amy L. **Solomon**



Pell Reinstatement Discussion



Additional Resources



Q&A

SPEAKERS



- **Amy Solomon**, Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice
- **Sean Addie**, Director of Correctional Education, U.S. Department of Education
- **Patrick Rodriguez**, Co-Executive Director, Georgia Coalition for Higher Education in Prison
- **Jay Sanders**, Assistant Commissioner, Georgia Department of Corrections

Welcome

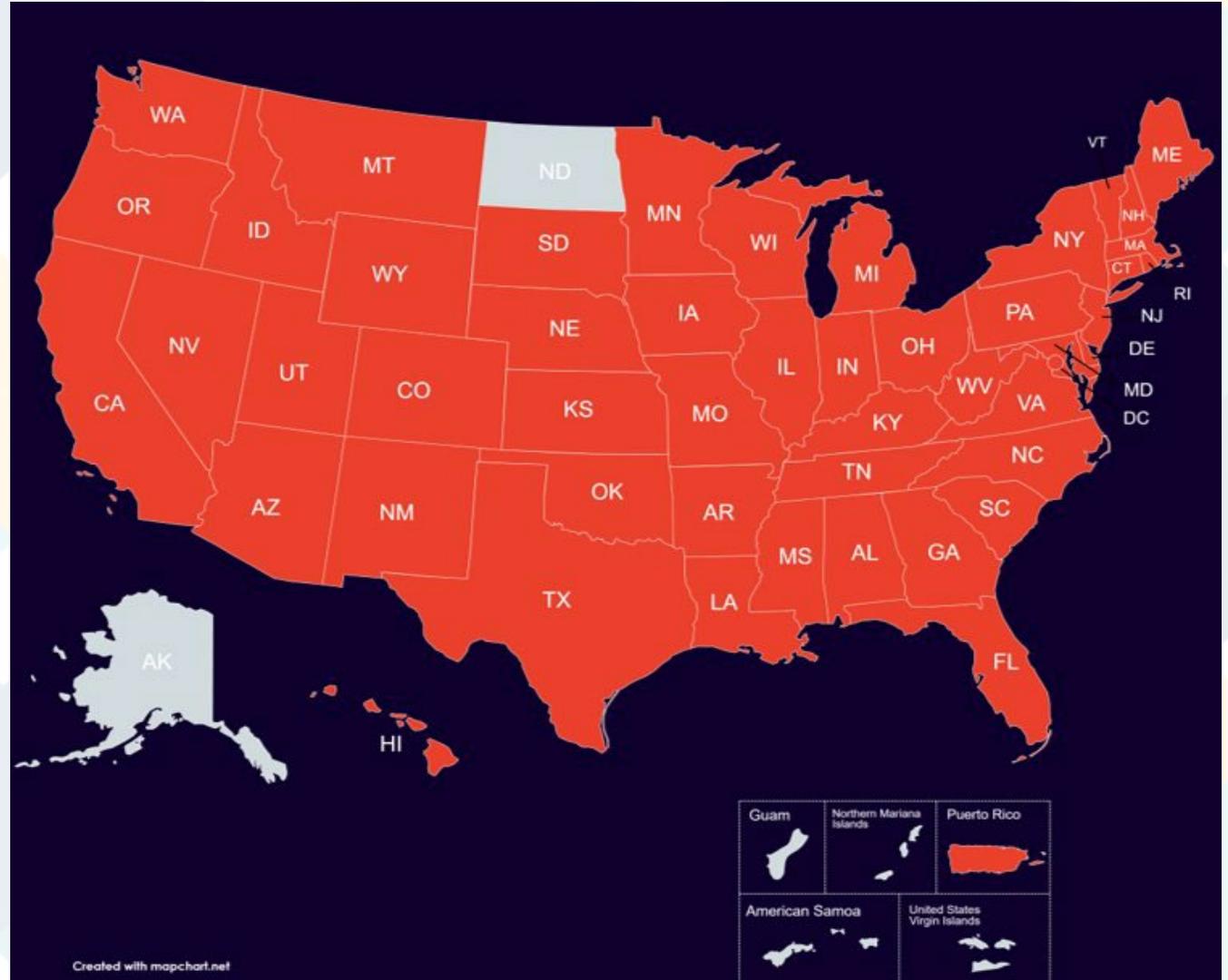
Amy L. Solomon, Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice



Second Chance Pell 2016-2022

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States, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico are now involved in the Second Chance Pell Initiative.



Pell Expansion Updates and Next Steps

Sean Addie, Director of Correctional Education, U.S. Department of Education



Prison Education Programs (PEP)

Who is the oversight entity?

Corrections

Who is Eligible to be a Part of a PEP:

Any person who is incarcerated and serving a criminal sentence is eligible to be a part of a PEP **regardless of sentence length or conviction type.**

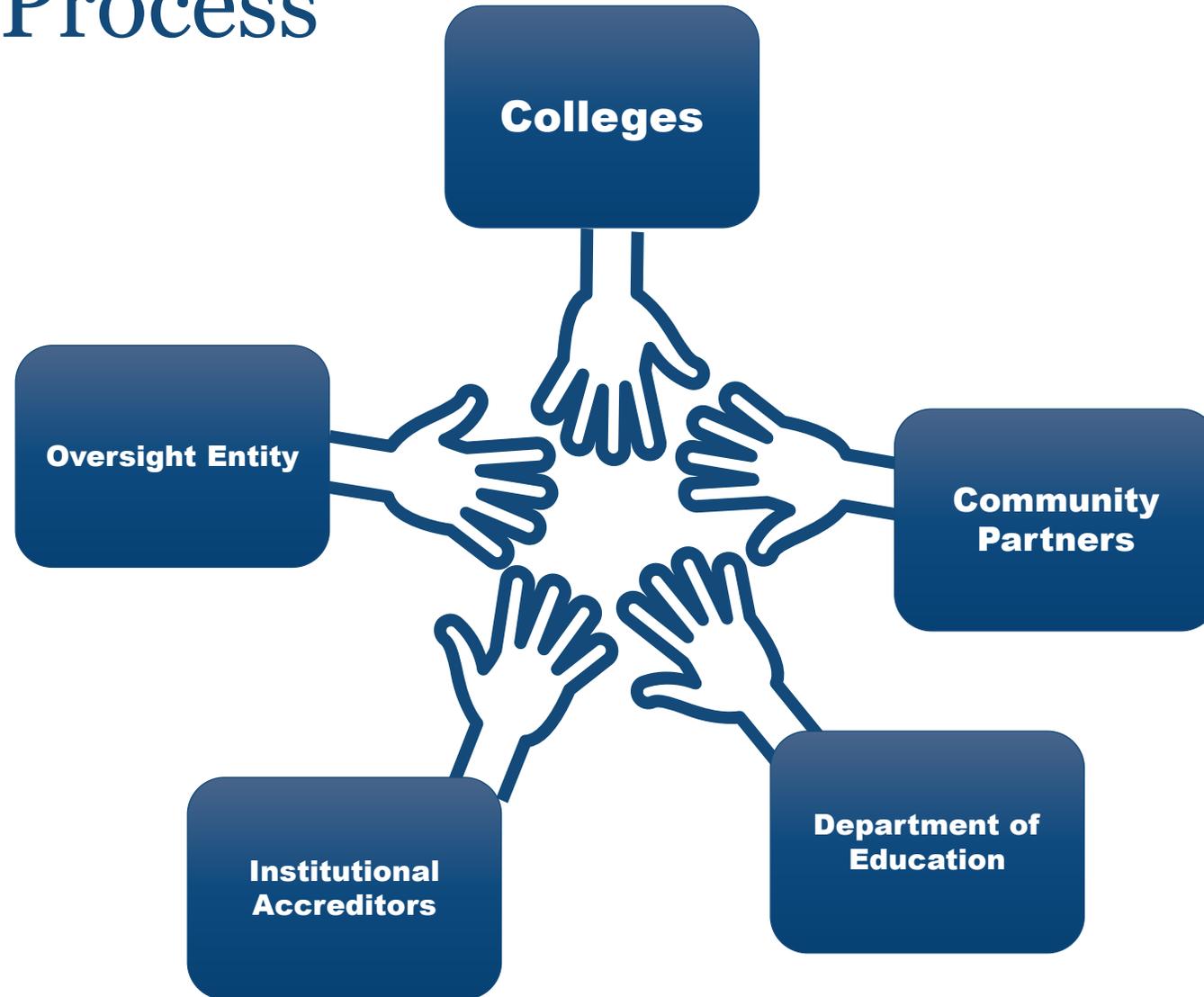
Location:

PEPs include more than just prisons. The definition of an additional location for a PEP is as follows: *“A Federal, State, or local penitentiary, prison, jail, reformatory, work farm, juvenile justice facility, or other similar correctional institution.”*

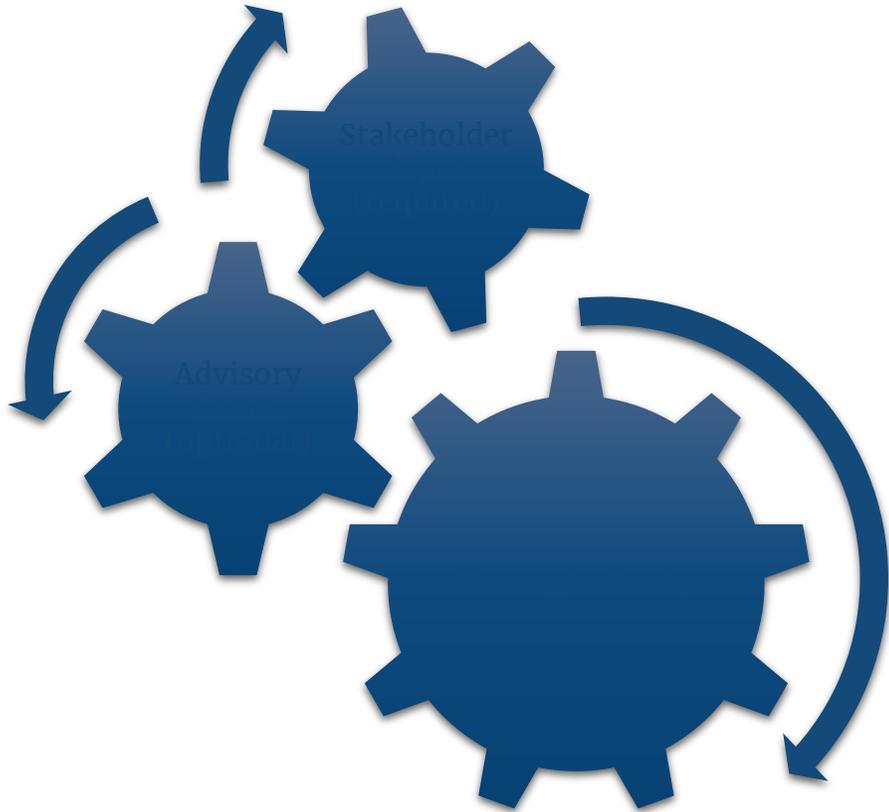
Georgia



Multiple Stakeholders Required in the PEP Approval Process



Community Engagement



Advisory Committee - *optional*

- A group established by the oversight entity that provides nonbinding feedback regarding the approval and operation of a PEP within the oversight entity's jurisdiction

Relevant Stakeholders - *required*

- Individuals and organizations that provide input to the oversight entity as part of a feedback process regarding the approval and operation of PEPs

Must include

- Representatives of students who are incarcerated
- Organizations representing individuals who are confined or incarcerated
- State higher education executive offices
- Accrediting agencies
- Additional stakeholders as determined by the oversight entity

Supporting Students



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Federal Student Aid (FSA) Knowledge Center: <https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/topics/prison-education-programs>
- Department of Education Dedicated Email Address for PEP-related Questions: pep@ed.gov
- Georgia Coalition for Higher Education in Prison - <https://www.gachep.org/>
- Alliance for Higher Education in Prison - <https://www.higheredinprison.org/>
- Formerly Incarcerated College Graduates Network - <https://www.ficgn.org/>

Vera offers a range of resources that may be helpful to colleges, accreditors, corrections, and other stakeholders in the higher education in prison space:

- [Accessing Pell Grants for College Programs in Correctional Settings](#) summarizes the final regulations.
- [Postsecondary Education in Prison Programs and Accreditation—General Considerations for Peer Reviewers and Accreditors](#) provides college accreditors, peer reviewers, and other interested parties with information about the higher education in prison space.
- [Second Chance Pell: Five Years of Expanding Higher Education Programs in Prisons](#) summarizes the fifth year of the experiment using survey data collected from 64 of the participating colleges.
- [First Class report](#) offers relevant guidance on starting new college in prison programs.
- [A Piece of the Puzzle](#) analyzes state financial aid available to students who are incarcerated.
- [Lessons from Second Chance Pell](#) provides guidance on advising students completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form while incarcerated.

Questions & Answers

Thank you!

Belinda Wheeler

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