



**Fiscal Year 2021 Second Chance Act (SCA) Programs
Adult Reentry Education, Employment, Treatment, and Recovery Program Funding
Opportunity**

Webinar Transcript

- [Jennifer Loeffler-Cobia] The Second Chance Act Programs webinar. We appreciate you taking the time to join us today and learn more about these great funding opportunities. My name is Jennifer Loeffler-Cobia, and I am the director of the National Reentry Resource Center. I'll be joined in today's presentation by Andre Bethea, who is a BJA policy advisor, and Ruby Qazilbash, the associate director at BJA. Next slide. Next slide again please, thank you.

- [Jennifer] Today, we are going to do a quick overview of BJA and the Second Chance Act followed by a review of the current funding opportunities, provide updates specifically to the Adult Reentry Education Employment Treatment and Recovery Program solicitation, and finally, a quick section on additional information that will be helpful for your submission process. We will then follow up with any questions that you may have for our panelists. A few notes. The link to the solicitation is here on the right. This solicitation document will outline key information on eligibility, required components, deadlines, and instructions about your application process. We encourage you to read the application closely for a full understanding of what is expected. All questions about the solicitation need to be directed to the National Criminal Justice Reference Services to ensure applicants all have access to the same information and answers. Applications have two deadlines this year, one to register, and one to submit. So please be sure to read all of the information carefully. Next slide.

- [Jennifer] Great, BJA will now provide an overview of the Second Chance Act, BJA's mission, and funding. So Ruby, I will turn the time over to you.

- [Ruby Qazilbash] Great, thank you Jen, and welcome everyone. If you could advance the slide. It's wonderful to see everybody introducing themselves in the chat. Keep it coming. Briefly, the Second Chance Act was signed into law by then President Bush back in 2008, and it was reauthorized in 2018. And through the first step back to the entire thing was reauthorized, and some enhancements and changes were made to it, but the core programs that it supports are still alive and well, and those are the programs that we make solicitations under to support states and localities and tribal governments as well as nonprofit organizations to really up their game and make improvements to their reentry and reintegration efforts. And over the years, we've been able to put over \$500 million to work in communities in the form of grants to develop new strategies, implement those strategies, and test new ones. On the next slide.

- [Ruby] A little bit about the Bureau of Justice Assistance. We are on the branch of the Department of Justice tree that doesn't have an operational cops, courts, or corrections function,



but rather our mission is to provide leadership and services through grants administration and also criminal justice policy development that looks out and support state, local, and tribal justice strategies to work on achieving safer communities. BJA is a part of the Office of Justice Programs, and we have a number of sister agencies that also work to support and strengthen juvenile justice functions as well as support for survivors and victims of crime.

- [Ruby] And on the next slide, just talk a little bit about our, how we approach funding, particularly under the Second Chance Act. So we make grant funds available to units of government at the state, local, and tribal level as I mentioned as well as to nonprofit organizations. And a lot of times you can think about those funds as seed money to get some things started for a proof of concept for something that wants to, that a jurisdiction or a nonprofit would like to test or try out and then certainly to expand or enhance what we already have a strong knowledge base through the research, and we already have an understanding that this is what works to improve reentry and reintegration processes and outcomes. Along with that, we make funding available for training and for technical assistance. And the reason that we do that is to help grantees meet the goals and objectives of the federal funding, and they help to make sure that we're seeding money with fidelity, that the federal funds are used in line with what we know works through the research, and then we're also able to provide support on project management and provide content expertise when our grantees need it.

- [Ruby] So, we're able to meet our grantees where they're at and make sure that they have supports all along the continuum of their grant funding to help our grantees be successful, set them up for success, and help them meet the goals and objectives of their federal funding.

- [Jennifer] Great, thank you so much.

- [Ruby] And with that, I'll turn it over to you to explain as the head of the National Reentry Resource Center, I will kick it over to you.

- [Jennifer] Great, thanks so much Ruby for that overview. So just to give a quick overview of the National Reentry Resource Center, we are operated by the American Institutes for Research here in Washington D.C. And our primary mission is to really advance the research and evidence around reentry best practices to the field. We also partner with three technical assistance centers and the Second Chance Act grantees to advance the great work that they're all doing to improve reentry experiences for those that we all serve. The NRRC also provides resources, as I said, with grantees, individuals, and the field on various topics such as community supervision, treatment, housing, employment, and health through different avenues of webinars, tools, and publications. We also house three clearinghouses, the National Inventory of Collateral Consequences, Clean Slate, and the Public Safety Risk Assessment. If you ever have any questions for the NRRC or looking for resources, you can always email us at info@nationalreentryresourcecenter.org. And the email is at the bottom of the slide there. Next slide.



So just to summarize, the NRRC really focuses on advancing the knowledge base of the reentry field. We want to promote what works in the reentry and really promote the successes of the grantees, facilitate peer networks and information exchange, and provide information for people returning home to their communities and their families. Next slide.

- [Jennifer] And just to let you all know we have redesigned our NRRC website. So we have the new website. It's been designed really to provide an interactive experience to assist with targeted resource searching. We provide the latest news and resources in reentry, an interactive map that provides information on reentry initiatives in each state, along with an updated resource directory. You can access the new NRRC site at either nationalreentryresourcecenter.org, or if it's easier for you to just remember, reentrymatters.org. You can access the site at, with either website. Next slide.

- [Jennifer] So we'll now provide an overview of the current solicitation available, and more specifically, the updates to the Adult Reentry Education Employment Treatment and Recovery Program solicitation. So next slide.

- [Jennifer] Just to provide an overview of what is currently available, there are five Second Chance Act funding opportunities, the Community Based Reentry Program, the Pay for Success Initiative, the Innovations in Reentry Initiative, Smart Probation Innovations in Supervision Initiative, and also the one that we'll be providing updated information on today is the Adult Reentry Education Employment Treatment and Recovery Program. So I will now turn the time over to Andre at BJA to talk more specifically about this solicitation. Andre.

- [Andre Bethea] Thanks Jen. Next slide. First and foremost, before I get into the purpose, I want to thank you all. I was reading through the chat. I even put a message in there to say everyone. We are represented throughout this wonderful, great nation, and it's great to see many current grantees, former grantees, as well as new friends. Really excited to have this opportunity to discuss something new, the Second Chance Act Adult Reentry Education Employment Treatment and Recovery Outcomes Program. The purpose of the program is to enhance the ability of corrections systems to address the substance use treatment needs of offenders as well as expand education and employment programs that emphasize strong partnerships with corrections, parole, probation, education, workforce development, and reentry service providers. It's a lot. This will work to reduce recidivism, promote recovery, and enhance employment prospects for incarcerated adults reentering the workforce. These partnerships can support the establishment and improvement of academic and vocational education programs and career training programs available in prisons and jails. Overall, these efforts will improve public safety and public health. Programs should be focused on the three-year period before release as well as upon transition and reentry into the community. Next slide.

- [Andre] So let's get into a summary of the information. We're gonna start off with the pre-release access. Participants are expected to be screened, assessed, and identified for program



participation pre-release. During the post-release phase of the reentry program, participants will receive case management services and will be connected to evidence-based programming designed to assist them in making a safe and successful transition from prison or jail to the community. Where feasible, case management services and evidence-based programming should begin during the pre-release phase. Next. If the correction agency is not the lead applicant, meaning that if you are a nonprofit organization or a government agency that doesn't have function or oversee the correction agency, then the applicant, you being the lead applicant, must include an attachment, a memorandum of agreement or understanding, we usually say MOA or MOU, that clearly demonstrates an established collaborative relationship between the applicant and the correctional agencies that number one oversee the specific facility or facilities for which the applicant proposes to recruit the target reentering population, so let's not be general, let's be specific. Oversee community corrections, probation, or parole for that target population. For some of you all, that's a unified system, and for others, it may be two separate systems if you're going to in fact be working with community supervision during the post-release portions of your grants should you be awarded. Next slide.

- [Andre] Additional information about this wonderful MOA or MOU. It should be again specific. So the roles and responsibilities from staff from both agencies involved in the program. The terms of access to the correctional facility, this is very important, especially because we, as a nation, we're coming, we're on our way out, yay, of the pandemic, but we just went through something unprecedented. And so the terms of access to the correctional facility or facilities for the program staff are extremely important and should be one of, it should be listed in the actual MOA or MOU. Information on pre-release programming and intervention provided by the correctional agency to each participant. So that should be a discussion about what exactly is the programming and what are the intervention? Dosage is important, but for the level of the memorandum of agreement or the memorandum of understanding, there should be, it should identify the actual programming and interventions that will take place pre-release. The data elements and performance measures that the partnering agencies will provide or assist the grantee in obtaining for the purpose of measuring the impact of grant activities. What am I talking about data elements? I'm talking about the baseline recidivism rate, right? I'm talking about whether or not that's gender specific, how long ago did the correctional agency provide this information? When was it done? So don't just give me percentages, right? You should say the correctional agency should be able to tell, and all this should be inside of your MOA or MOU. Next slide.

- [Andre] Also, we have a mandatory chief executive assurance to collect and report recidivism indicator data. Part of your upload, part of, within the solicitation is this wonderful document that must be completed and must be uploaded. And this is your commitment that there will be a discussion about recidivism at the end of the project and throughout the project on looking at the participants in the project and reporting the recidivism data. There's a commitment there, and we need that upfront. Next slide.



- [Andre] Also in the summary information, we want to talk about the documentation of advancing DOJ priorities. So the Bureau of Justice Assistance where I work is under the Office of Justice Programs, and they will give priority consideration and award decisions to applications that specify how the project will advance one or more of the following DOJ priorities, the promotion of civil rights, access to justice, support to crime victims, protecting the public from crime and evolving threat, building trust between law enforcement and the community. It should be noted that priority consideration is one of the many factors that are used in making funding decisions and not a guarantee of an award. Next slide.

- [Andre] Letters of support. Some key partners. This is other than your correctional agency partner, cause that's, you should have a memorandum of understanding or a memorandum of agreement, because that's required. But if you are a part, if you have additional partners involved, then you should have letters of support detailing the commitment to the work with the applicant to promote the mission of the program. Again, very specific. Next slide.

- [Andre] Tribal Authorizing Resolution. If applicable, applicants will submit the Tribal Authorizing Resolution by uploading the resolution as an attachment in JustGrants, that's their system. An application in response to the solicitation may require inclusion of information related to a Tribal Authorization Resolution as an attachment. So I'll be making many references to this guide, but the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide should be by your side as you're reading the solicitation, not just for information about Tribal Authorizing Resolutions, but for many of the things that will be identified in this particular webinar, but as you will also see, in the actual solicitation itself. Next slide.

- [Andre] Eligibility. Eligible applicants may submit only one application per category but may also apply to more than one category. I'm gonna say that again. You may submit only one application per category, but you may apply to more than one category. Who are these eligible applicants? Units or components of state government agencies, units or components of county or city local government agencies, federally recognized Indian tribal governments, nonprofit organizations having a 501 status with the Internal Revenue Service other than institutions of higher education. Next slide.

- [Andre] So let's look at the budget. So the budget should be broken down obviously into three years, but we also want you to include, applicants should budget funding to travel to a peer learning event, such as the regional meeting. It's an estimate. You make the estimate from your location to another location, potentially Washington D.C., for three staff members. We're not talking about the particulars now. We're just telling you to have a place holder in your budget to attend one meeting per year for the duration, the three years, of your grant should you be awarded. All expenses must be reasonable, allowable, and necessary to the project. The estimate must provide a breakdown of all costs and must adhere to the federal per diem. All grantees will access up to \$100,000 until an action plan is approved by BJA during the first six months of the grant period after the final budget is approved. So again, before we move on, I want to break



down and say that when you are awarded, should you be awarded, if you are awarded, you will not have access to the entire award amount. You will only have access to, up to \$100,000. That is for planning. You have to go to the . You don't circumvent it, you go through the . And by that point, we're working with you. We have technical assistance providers who will work with you on what we have as an action plan. Things change between the time you wrote the proposal and the actual time the budget and the award is approved for you after you've been awarded. Many things change, life changes, and we all know through 2020, you can never predict when life changes. So to that end, let's just be mindful that should you be awarded, you will not have access to all of the funding immediately and that you have to go through the planning stage and work on your action plan with a technical assistance provider. Next.

- [Andre] So let's have an open discussion about unallowable uses of award and funds of award funds. So in addition to unallowable costs identified in the DOJ Grants Financial Guide, which should you be awarded this grant, you should familiarize yourself with, and we at BJA will help you become acquainted with the DOJ Grant Financial Guide, award funds may not be used for the following. So it is unfair, right? We can't do prizes, rewards, entertainment, and trinkets, or anything that, you know, the type of monetary incentive to promote for client and participants to be a part of your program. You are not allowed to do client stipend. You are not allowed to do gift cards. You are not allowed to purchase, buy, or lease a vehicle with federal funds. You are not allowed to use federal funds for food and beverages for different family days and events, it's not allowable. And in regards to cost sharing or matching requirements, it should be noted that this particular solicitation, and it's three different categories, there is no match requirement. If you put one in there, then we're gonna hold you to what you put into the budget. However, it is not required. Next.

- [Andre] So let's get into the details. We're gonna start off with category one obviously, improving correctional education. So what is the goal of this category, right? It states the obvious. We're looking at academic and vocational education programs that are available to persons who are incarcerated. We're talking about prisons and jail, okay? The objectives as stated, you know, they're going to implement or expand, right? If you have an existing program, implement or expand education and vocational programs for incarcerated adults, there we go, that result in improved educational outcomes as measured by literacy attainment, high school equivalency, high school and higher education diplomas, certifications, as well as other credentials. Another objective, you're gonna demonstrate increased collaboration between educational providers and corrections, community supervision providers, and the whole host of other reentry stakeholders that go into this wonderful, great work that we're all involved in. Next.

- [Andre] Again, with deliverables for category one, improving correctional education, you're gonna develop an action plan with the input from BJA, right, the Bureau of Justice Assistance, and an assigned technical assistance coach, and it'll be submitted within six months of receiving final budget approval. And lastly, the other deliverable, a final report at the end of the project



period. Next. So in category one, which is improving correctional education, for fiscal year 2021, right, we estimate a number up to seven awards being made each having up to \$900,000 for the three year performance, which is 36 months. That's not \$900,000 every year. It's \$900,000 throughout. Now, I already told you that \$100,000 of that is strictly for planning. Then you will have access to the other eight for the duration and the implementation of your project. Next.

- [Andre] I'll give you time to start reading some of the examples of potential category one program activity. Again, I think the creativity and the uniqueness of your particular program or proposed program will be up to that jurisdiction. But on the occasion that we are just looking at what potential category one program activities could look like, you're talking about maybe a partnership between the state or local department of corrections, right, and a college to provide a college preparatory course within the prison. We're talking about a partnership between a nonprofit and colleges or DOCs to do in reach or planning for education for individuals post-release. You're talking about a training for community supervision officers coordinated by the state or the local DOC and a college on how to support formerly incarcerated adults going to college. Again, the training is not just for the clients or the students themselves, but it also should involve other stakeholders, in many cases, the non-for staff and the program staff at the nonprofit providers within the school, right, but also within corrections. There's a great deal of information being exchanged and a new way of working together, so funding could be used to support that kind of training, a training coordinated by state or local corrections and colleges to build and increase buy-in for correctional education amongst correctional staff and to support college ongoing among them and or their families. We want to think broadly. This is a learning hub. And learning is not just happening from the individuals and the students who are incarcerated, but it's also for everyone involved. Next.

- [Andre] So category two, improving vocational and employment services. The goal here is to provide career training, including subsidized employment, when part of a training program to prisoners and reentering adults. The objective again, implement or expand job readiness assessment, individualized case plans, and employment related services for incarcerated adults that result in improved job readiness, employment attainment, and retention. Next. So the deliverables for category two, which is improving vocational and employment services, are the development of an action plan with input from BJA and an assigned technical assistance coach, submit it within six months of receiving final budget approval. Again, I went over that with category one. It's the same with category two. And a final report at the end of the project period. Next.

- [Andre] So in fiscal year 2021 for our category two, which is improving vocational and employment services, we estimate making up to eight awards with each amount up to \$900,000. Again, emphasizing that's \$900,000 to be used for the duration of your project, which is 36 months. Next. So now to be eligible for category two, applicants must commit, meaning you must say it in your proposal, to restrict internet access by incarcerated individuals as appropriate to ensure public safety and facility security. Again, I cannot stress this enough. This is a specific



requirement for category two applicants only. And it should be stated in your proposal, just state it, a commitment to restrict internet access by incarcerated individual as appropriate to ensure public safety and facility security. Next.

- [Andre] Let's look at some of the statutory, when I say statutory, talking about the Second Chance Act as a natural statute, so we're looking at statutory priority areas regarding category two applicants, which is improving vocational and employment services. First one up is provide assessment of local demand for employees in the geographic areas to which the offenders are likely to return. So you don't want to just provide a vocational program. You want to have done your research and understand your population, and where exactly they're returning to their community as that there's proof that there is a demand for this type of employee. Conduct individualized reentry career planning upon the start of incarceration or post-release employment planning for each offender served under the grant. So twofold. There's an order there, right? You can talk about what the particular correctional agency is doing in terms of individualized reentry and how this program will be infused, or you can discuss, after you discuss your pre-release, you're gonna look at post-release and talk about the employment planning that you will do for each offender's term under the grant. Demonstrate connections to employers within the local community. That looks like a support letter to me. That looks like a discussion to me. Track and monitor employment outcomes. These are priority areas that are identified in the statute. You should be able to track and monitor employment outcomes if in fact you intend to submit a proposal for the category to improve in vocational and employment services. Next slide.

Examples of potential category two program activities, these are just examples, are a partnership between the state and local department of correction, a nonprofit branch service provider, and a workforce development stakeholder to identify and align the use of a job readiness assessment tool to aid in reentry. Again, that could be done regarding some of the existing activity within Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act that may exist in the state already, we call that WIOA, a partnership between the state or local department of correction and nonprofits to create a shared system for developing and managing individualized case plans for individuals for incarcerated adults to ensure continued and relevant services post-release. Again, collaborative, working together, all the stakeholders. As training for reentry case managers on strategies to promote job retention after placement, right? That's a big issue. We really want to have open dialogue about, okay, now that the individual has the job, how can the provider be supportive, right? Or the vocational services, or the school be supportive of everything else in life that the individual who was incarcerated now returning to the community has to deal with as well as with their job. So talking about job retention and the importance of being on time, working with your employer, understanding that there might be other appointments that the individual may have to make. So again, a training per region case managers or strategies to promote job retention after placement. Next slide.



Now we're going into the final category, category three, which is on the other end of the spectrum as it relates to reentry. And this is the piece that deals with improving substance use disorder treatment services. So the goal here to enhance the ability of correction systems to address the substance use treatment needs of offenders in order to reduce recidivism, promote recovery, and in the process improve public safety and public health. The objective for the category three are to improve the provision of substance use disorder treatment to people in prisons and jails through the reentry process including during a period of parole or court supervision if applicable, provide prison based family treatment programs for incarcerated parents of a minor, of minor children or pregnant women, right? The target population for services under category three can include people with substance use disorders as well as people with co-occurring substance use and mental health disorders. Next slide.

Other deliverables, or the deliverables for category three, improving substance use disorder treatment services, include development of an action plan with the input from BJA and an assigned technical assistance coach submitted within six months of receiving the final budget approval as well as the final report at the end of the project period. Next.

- [Andre] And in fiscal year 2021, for category three, improving substance use disorder treatment services, we estimate making up to 12 awards with the funding amount being up to \$900,000 for each award. Again, that's \$900,000 for the duration of your award, not \$900,000 each year. You have up to \$900,000 for the duration of your award. Next.

- [Andre] So we're gonna look at some of the allowed uses of funds, not all. We're looking for jurisdictions, states, community providers, reentry coalitions to be creative. This is not a one size fit all. None of these categories are, and certainly not category three, improving substance use disorder treatment. Allowable uses of funds. Continue and improve drug treatment programs, including the provision of medication assisted treatment provided at a prison or jail. Provide prison based family treatment programs, so incarcerated parents of minor children or pregnant women. Develop and implement programs for supervised long-term substance abusers that include alcohol and drug abuse assessments, coordinated and continuous delivery of drug treatment, and case management services. Strengthen rehabilitation efforts for offenders by providing addiction recovery support services. Provide for the salaries, personnel costs, facility costs, and other costs directly related to the program's operation. That does not exclude capital development. None of the funds could be used for capital development. And that means like buying a building or building a building. Next.

- [Andre] So category three, improving substance use disorder treatment, again, statutorily mandated project components. So again, this is referring to the Second Chance Act Statute where this funding is provided and administered. All applicants for category three, that includes you, all of you who are looking at submitting proposals for category three, must standardize screening and assessment processes for substance use disorders using a validated tool for offenders entering a correctional facility, so whether it's booking, intake, or classification, there



should be a standardized screening and assessment process for substance use disorders. For applicants for category three must provide evidence-based pre- and post-release substance use and cognitive behavioral interventions to address criminogenic risk factors. All applicants for category three must establish medication assisted treatment as part of any drug treatment program for offenders who are in a prison or jail. All applicants for category three must collect and use data to determine the effectiveness of the BJA-funded drug treatment programs. Next.

- [Andre] Applicants for category three prison-based programs should integrate techniques to assess the strengths and needs of incarcerated parent's immediate and extended family to support a treatment plan for the incarcerated parent, if you choose that component, right? Applicants for category three prison-based programs should ensure that each participant in that program has access to consistent and uninterrupted care if transferred to a different facility, correctional facility that is, within the state or other relevant entity. Applicants for category three prison-based programs should ensure the program is located in an area separate from the general population of the prison. Next.

- [Andre] For category three, improving substance use disorder treatment, there is a mandatory certification requirement, service provider licensing accreditation certification documentation. So all collaborating service provider organizations listed in the application must meet applicable licensing, accreditation, and certification requirements. Again, as the authorized representative, you should, you will have to sit there and say that you understand the following information that is required to receive the funding and that these materials have been included with the application materials. All of that will be listed for you, not just because of this webinar, but it's actually, it's actually a part of the solicitation. Just giving you a moment to look at that screen. All right, next slide.

Category three, improving substance use disorder treatment. Now we're gonna look at examples of potential category three program activities. Again, there's no one size fits all. There's no prototype. We all know that the uniqueness of our nation and the different regions in our nation and in your states and your jurisdiction throughout. Examples of potential category three program activities could be a reentry partnership between a state or local corrections agency and a state, local, nonprofit substance use disorder treatment service provider to provide pre- and post-release substance use disorder treatment. Another example, a partnership between a state or local community supervision, corrections agency, and substance use disorder treatment nonprofit to enhance reentry supports for people with substance use disorders on community supervision with a focus on gender responsive-services for women. Another example of a potential category three program could be a partnership between pretrial services and a substance use disorder treatment nonprofit supporting identification and connections to care for people with substance use disorders who are in pre-trial status. Next.

- [Andre] So now we're gonna go into some additional information. All of this is listed inside of the solicitation, so if I'm breezing through, it's because it's actually in the solicitation, and we're



just gonna use the opportunity to kind of unpack it a bit. But it is all there in the solicitation. That should be your guide when you're writing your proposal. Next.

- [Andre] So there's an additional eligibility requirement to advance Executive Order 13929 Safe Policing for Safe Communities. The Attorney General determined that all state, local, and university or college law enforcement agencies must be certified by an approved, independent credentialing body or have started the certification process to be eligible for fiscal year 2021 Department of Justice discretionary grant funding. The certification requirement also applies to proposed subawardees. Again, let me say that part. The certification requirement also applies to proposed subawardees. That means others in your partnership who will be benefiting from either category one, two, or three funds should you be awarded. To become certified, the law enforcement agency must meet two mandatory conditions. Number one, the agency's use the force policy adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws. Number two, the agency's use of force policies prohibits chokeholds except in situations where use of deadly force is allowed by law. So we do have a link here, and it's actually in the solicitation for detailed information on this new certification requirement. Please, by all means, look at the site and know that all of you are bound by law to become certified. Next.

- [Andre] So this is something new for fiscal year 2021. We do have a new system, and because we have a new system, there's a new way to apply. The applications will be submitted in a new two-step process each with its own deadline. So step one, applicants must submit an SF-424 and an SF-LLL at grants.gov. Separately, step two, applicants must submit the full application, including all attachments, at JusticeGrants.usdoj.gov. Read the solicitation document carefully for further guidance. Next.

- [Andre] JustGrants, this is our new system, offers a streamlined, end-to-end process that enables applicants and grantees to move seamlessly through the full grants management life cycle. JustGrants gives applicants and award recipients new ways to manage their own entity information and that of users in the system. Please do not wait till the last day or the deadline to apply. Well, now you can't, because, well you have a grant.gov deadline that is different, and that comes before your JustGrants upload of the entire proposal. Let's just be mindful of this two-step process. Next.

- [Andre] Application submission. Identify the forms needed to submit an application, complete a web-based budget form, complete an application, including certifying the information, and submit the application. Next.

- [Andre] So there is JustGrant support that is provided for you. And again, all of this, this entire webinar will be available within the week on the National Reentry Resource Center website that was highlighted by Jennifer earlier, who is the actual lead for the National Reentry Resource Center. And just letting you know that there's JustGrants support. It is a very new system. Please familiarize yourself before trying to apply. Next.



- [Andre] So just some application elements, right? There's the application, your SF-424 form talking about your project abstract, critical. Your program narrative, goals, objectives, deliverables, and timelines, budget information, indirect cost rate agreement, financial management questionnaire, as well as the many disclosures should there be, should they apply to you being a re-applicant. Next.

- [Andre] Just reviewing the review criteria. I want to emphasize that 40% is on your project design and implementation, and 25% is on your capabilities and competency. This is what the peer reviewers will be looking at. Those are your higher ones. Don't disregard the description of the issue. Just saying that that's 10%, the budget's 10%, and your plan for collecting data for the solicitation performance measures and sustainability plans is 15%. Next.

- [Andre] Recommended resources, the BJA Grant Applicant Education Series. So we have a web link for the funding opportunities for your community in 2021, an overview of what's ahead. And then we also have one for the funding process or steps to applying, how to prepare now, and other considerations. Even if you have a current SBA grant, chances are you did not get the grant using JustGrants. So the process would be different. And so it behooves everyone who's considering, who are applying for this particular solicitation to in fact peruse these wonderful resources. Next.

- [Andre] Additional recommended resources on the web. Again, pointing out the OJP Funding Resource Center, DOJ Grants Financial Guide, the DOJ Grants Financial Management Online Training, OJP Grant Application Resource Guide, as well as the National Institute of Justice's CrimeSolutions.gov. Next.

- [Andre] Just some important contacts that should remain in your mind along there. It's all identified in your solicitation. So we do have, grants.gov has technical support, which is available 24 hours a day. And we also at BJA have the National Criminal Justice Reference Service. If in fact, none of your questions are answered through this particular webinar, or you just have additional questions and for clarity, please submit your questions to the National Criminal Justice Reference Service. Next.

- [Andre] Second Chance Act solicitations. All the ones that are open that Jennifer spoke of earlier in the webinar are available at that link. Application deadlines vary, so read carefully. Again, JustGrants trainings and the availability of those trainings. Access trainings for JustGrants application webinar. You will definitely need it. Next.

- [Andre] And in the short time of five minutes, we now have Q and A. Jen, Nick?

- [Jen] Great, thank you so much Andre for going through all of that information, the details of the solicitation and all of the great resources, you know, that are available to help the applicants



move through this process. So I'm gonna turn the time now over to our colleague, Nick Reed, who is the deputy director for the NRRC to facilitate questions, Andre, for you and Ruby. So Nick, I'm going to turn it over to you. And then once we're done with questions, Andre will just do a quick wrap-up, and we will let you all move on your way with your applications. So thank you all for joining us and being a part of this webinar. Nick.

- [Nick] Great, great. Well, this is certainly no small task with the many, many, many, many questions that have come in, so thank you to everyone for paying such close attention and asking such great questions. Couple of what I think will be pretty quick clarification questions for you, Andre. Yeah, I know you said this, but I just want to confirm that applicants are able to submit one application per category but can apply to multiple categories. I believe that is correct.

- [Andre] Indeed, that is the correct, and I repeated it several times for many reasons. I just put something good luck to everyone inside the chat, and I mean that. I'm encouraging all of you to apply, grantees as well as those who've never had a Second Chance Act grant before. Nick, if you would be so kind to repeat it again for me, and we can go on to the next question.

- [Nick] Absolutely. So just to confirm, applicants may only submit one application per category but can apply to all three categories.

- [Andre] Awesome. Next question.

- [Nick] Quick, related to this, the expected start date of awards and just confirming that category three is also a three year grant.

- [Andre] So category three could be three years. You should think three years, but treatment and recovery sometimes pushes into four years. Hence thank you for paying attention to detail. However, yes, October 1, 2021 should always be your start date.

- [Nick] Great. All right, several questions around nonprofits. Wanted to confirm that nonprofit organizations that are parts of universities are eligible or are there any other, any restrictions related to nonprofit organization applicants?

- [Andre] If you can in fact produce that your particular center at a university has a 501 , because that is required, then you in fact are a nonprofit. If you cannot produce that proof, then chances are you will not, you're not eligible to apply.

- [Nick] Great, okay. A couple of questions around costs. You mentioned some restrictions. Does the ban on food and beverage also apply to budgeting conference costs?



- [Andre] Well, if you're budgeting conference costs for you to attend a Washington D.C. conference, then you will be allotted a certain level of per diem, but that should all be covered in your estimate of your flight and your hotel stay as well as the per diem guide that would guide that amount. I did say reasonable, so when I said no to the food, that meant for the actual program for the clients, for the students, for those involved at the stakeholder meeting. No, no, and no.

- [Nick] Great. Similar question around use of funds. If something like a tablet, computer tablet is awarded to a student upon completion of a course, would that be considered a trinket or incentive?

- [Andre] You use the word awarded. And why is it going to that one student and not the others? So that's the question for you and your program. You said awarded. You said it was incentivized after the individual finishes the course. What happens to everyone else? It's a matter of fairness, and with federal dollars, that has always be a promotional fairness. You cannot sit there and incentivize. So based on how the individual phrased the question, no. Next. Oh, we're at time.

- [Nick] Yes we are. And I would say Andre, if you're open to it, and Ruby as well, we can pass on these additional questions, and take care of him that way, or to your previous recommendation to send everything through JCJ, I'm going to mess up the acronym, and don't want to steer people in the wrong direction, but we'll close with I guess the best way to answer the remaining questions that we have.

- [Andre] Yeah, so I will repeat everything again about promoting fairness, right? Every question should be submitted to the National Criminal Justice Reference Service.

- [Nick] Great, okay. Well, we will catalog those, and we'll have them submit it. If you did submit a question today, we will make sure that those get submitted to NCJRS, so they are available there for all that will apply, and you will have your answers there as well. And with that, yeah, I do want to respect people's time. I'll hand things over to Jennifer real quick to close us out.

- [Jen] Thank you so much Nick and Andre and Ruby for all of the great information and all of our participants today. It was so encouraging to see over 250 of you interested in this solicitation and the great work that we are all trying to do to help folks reenter back into their communities and their families successfully. So having said that, any last words, Andre, are we good to wrap up?

- [Andre] We're great to wrap up. Thank you again to my partners at AIR, at the National Reentry Resource Center. Ruby and I are in debt to you on this one. And we're really grateful to each and every one of you for doing the great work around this station and beyond as relates to helping



returning citizens get back into the community in a way that promotes public safety and public health. So thank you again, everyone.