



**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security  
Office of Grants and Research  
SFY23 Emerging Adult Reentry Initiative**

**Availability of Grant Funds - Frequently Asked Questions**

**1. Can Department of Correction or Sheriff's Department submit more than one memorandum of understanding (MOU) for a nonprofit applicant?**

Yes - since this is competitive and applicants do not know which nonprofits the reviewers will decide to fund, the state partner can provide letters of support for more than one applicant. Also, a county is quite large, and DOC covers the whole state, so it would make sense that these entities can endorse more than one project partner to work with if they chose to do so.

**2. Is the FY23 Emerging Adults Reentry Initiative only seeking a Technical Assistance provider, or are applications also open to Community Organizations who will provide the programming/services?**

The current funding is available for six (6) Community Organizations AND one (1) Technical Assistance Provider. Additional information regarding the applications and requirements can be found within the Availability of Grant Funds (AGF) posted on our website.

**3. We are interested in participating in the Reentry program. Would we be able to use the grant funds to purchase property? Are classes required to receive a memorandum of understanding (MOU)?**

Please see the State Legislation governing these funds - *Fiscal Year 2023 General Appropriation Act, Chapter 126 of the Acts of 2022 [8000-0655]* for additional information regarding eligibility of applicants.

As a part of the release program, funds may follow the participants and be used for post-release services, such as rent for a limited time. Rental expenses, if being proposed as part of the applicant's program, would be considered as a startup expense and subject to the 7.5% administrative cap based on the total amount being requested on rental expenses.

Applicants must be a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization and provide a memorandum of understanding (MOU). The MOU is an agreement between two or more parties, in this instance, with either a Sheriff's Office(s) and/or the MA DOC, that validates the applicant's collaborative relationship and attests to future collaboration as it relates to the submitted application. Each award will support programs that serve participants from one or more MA DOC and/or Sheriff's facilities.

**4. Does this grant apply to the sentenced inmate population only (as opposed to the pre-trial population)?**

Programs can work with pre-trial young adults provided that a referral is made by the courts, probation, and/or parole as an alternative to incarceration.

**5. If someone in our custody (sentenced and within the age range) is involved with the grant and receiving services turns 26, are they still eligible to receive programming?**

Yes - provided that the youth who is aging out is already receiving services and met the necessary criteria based on their age at the time of enrollment.

**6. Will someone who is already out in the community via probation or parole, prior to the start of the grant, be eligible to participate so long as they are within the age range.**

Yes - provided that the youth receiving services meet the necessary criteria based on their status and age at the time of enrollment.

**7. Will electronic signatures be accepted on proposal documents?**

Yes - provided that the electronic signature meets one of the following **acceptable forms of electronic signature**: *Electronic signature that is either: (A) Hand drawn using a mouse or from a touch screen device; (B) An uploaded picture of the signatory's hand drawn signature; or (C) Electronic/Digital signature affixed using a digital tool such as Adobe Sign or DocuSign. If using an electronic signature, the signature must be visible, include the signatory's name and title, and must be accompanied by a signature date.*

**8. Is this 7.5% indirect rate negotiable for agencies that have traditionally operated at a higher rate for other state contracts?**

No - all applicants under the SFY23 program are subject to the 7.5% limit on administrative costs based on the approved State Legislation governing these funds. Please see *Fiscal Year 2023 General Appropriation Act, Chapter 126 of the Acts of 2022 [8000-0655]* for additional information.

**9. Can you provide more clarity around the expectation to both implement TA programming as well as maintain fidelity to the identification, implementation, and outcome expectations of a new risk-assessment tool within the 1-year timeline?**

Successful applicants should make every effort to implement their proposed project within the given timeline. Furthermore, successful applicants under the SFY23 Emerging Adult Reentry Initiative may be eligible for an additional four (4) years of continuation funding. Subsequent funding is dependent on the state legislature continuing to fund the program and does not change the current legislative language.

Additionally, TA Providers should work with their program partner to demonstrate efforts being used to safeguard program fidelity. For instance, monitoring reported activities and tracking progress to ensure that they are staying true to the original program design, and not changing or adapting evidence-based programs or practices during implementation.

**10. Are there already network-wide risk assessment tools being used? Is it possible to gain further information around current/previously used tools from prior funding years?**

The following links are provided with the AGF as resources for evidence-based programs and practices:

- a) the National Institute of Corrections' *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse* website at: <https://whatworks.csgjusticecenter.org/>;
- b) the Office of Justice Programs' National Institute of Justice's *Crimesolutions.gov* website at [www.crimesolutions.gov](http://www.crimesolutions.gov); or
- c) the Results First Clearinghouse Database at <https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/data-visualizations/2015/results-first-clearinghouse-database>

**11. The most recent report that seems to be available on the program is from FY20. Are there any additional reports available for review from FY21 or FY22?**

Additional reports from prior Emerging Adult Reentry Initiative grant programs can be found here: [Public Documents and Statistics](#)

**12. My question is pertaining to sections 1.2 and 2.3.1 of the application. My concerns are that my reentry facility is in Los Angeles, California and doesn't have any affiliation or collaboration with the Massachusetts Department of Corrections. In addition, California is not among the Commonwealth towns or cities. Will these factors affect my application?**

Eligible applicants shall be required to meet all Grant Recipient Requirements as outlined in the application posting. In addition, applicants must be a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization and provide a memorandum of understanding (MOU) from the Sheriff's Office(s) and/or the MA DOC validating an applicant's collaborative relationship. Applicants must also provide pre- and post-release reentry services for emerging adults that are returning to Commonwealth cities and towns from state prison or a county correctional facility.