**Pennsylvania Department of Corrections**

**Justice Reinvestment – Short Min Offender Diversion Demonstration Awards**

**FY2015-2016 - #201601**

**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)**

**(as of 1/15/2016)**

1. ***Can counties submit regional applications?***

Yes. Counties are encouraged to be creative in their applications, including submitting joint/consortium-based applications between counties to pool resources. The application must clearly designate a “lead” county as applicant to serve as fiscal agent and, if awarded, will enter into the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Department. The “lead” county’s Tier Designation will be utilized in the selection criteria process.

***2a*. *Of those that are short min inmates- what is the percentage of them who are also low risk on the RST?  Is that information you have?***

Yes. 20.1% of the inmates who were short min were also low RST.

***2b.* *Can you provide percentages by County?***

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **County** | **Med High RST** | **Low RST** | **Grand Total** | **% Low RST** |
| JUNIATA | 0 | 2 | 2 | 100.0% |
| POTTER | 0 | 1 | 1 | 100.0% |
| LEBANON | 26 | 17 | 43 | 39.5% |
| CENTRE | 22 | 13 | 35 | 37.1% |
| BEDFORD | 28 | 16 | 44 | 36.4% |
| CAMERON | 2 | 1 | 3 | 33.3% |
| MIFFLIN | 10 | 5 | 15 | 33.3% |
| SULLIVAN | 2 | 1 | 3 | 33.3% |
| CHESTER | 47 | 21 | 68 | 30.9% |
| MONROE | 31 | 13 | 44 | 29.5% |
| CAMBRIA | 15 | 6 | 21 | 28.6% |
| DELAWARE | 187 | 72 | 259 | 27.8% |
| JEFFERSON | 24 | 9 | 33 | 27.3% |
| TIOGA | 8 | 3 | 11 | 27.3% |
| ADAMS | 48 | 17 | 65 | 26.2% |
| NORTHUMBERLAND | 44 | 15 | 59 | 25.4% |
| SUSQUEHANNA | 9 | 3 | 12 | 25.0% |
| UNION | 21 | 7 | 28 | 25.0% |
| VENANGO | 6 | 2 | 8 | 25.0% |
| WYOMING | 12 | 4 | 16 | 25.0% |
| FAYETTE | 99 | 32 | 131 | 24.4% |
| LUZERNE | 88 | 28 | 116 | 24.1% |
| CRAWFORD | 26 | 8 | 34 | 23.5% |
| BLAIR | 36 | 11 | 47 | 23.4% |
| SOMERSET | 30 | 9 | 39 | 23.1% |
| NORTHAMPTON | 102 | 30 | 132 | 22.7% |
| LACKAWANNA | 130 | 37 | 167 | 22.2% |
| LYCOMING | 54 | 15 | 69 | 21.7% |
| SCHUYLKILL | 47 | 13 | 60 | 21.7% |
| SNYDER | 29 | 8 | 37 | 21.6% |
| BUTLER | 30 | 8 | 38 | 21.1% |
| HUNTINGDON | 19 | 5 | 24 | 20.8% |
| BUCKS | 108 | 27 | 135 | 20.0% |
| WAYNE | 20 | 5 | 25 | 20.0% |
| PHILADELPHIA | 410 | 97 | 507 | 19.1% |
| WESTMORELAND | 47 | 11 | 58 | 19.0% |
| ALLEGHENY | 120 | 27 | 147 | 18.4% |
| BRADFORD | 27 | 6 | 33 | 18.2% |
| COLUMBIA | 18 | 4 | 22 | 18.2% |
| WASHINGTON | 45 | 10 | 55 | 18.2% |
| CARBON | 28 | 6 | 34 | 17.6% |
| MCKEAN | 28 | 6 | 34 | 17.6% |
| MERCER | 33 | 7 | 40 | 17.5% |
| MONTGOMERY | 173 | 36 | 209 | 17.2% |
| LAWRENCE | 29 | 6 | 35 | 17.1% |
| PIKE | 39 | 8 | 47 | 17.0% |
| FRANKLIN | 50 | 10 | 60 | 16.7% |
| CUMBERLAND | 26 | 5 | 31 | 16.1% |
| DAUPHIN | 141 | 27 | 168 | 16.1% |
| YORK | 89 | 15 | 104 | 14.4% |
| ARMSTRONG | 12 | 2 | 14 | 14.3% |
| BERKS | 144 | 24 | 168 | 14.3% |
| ELK | 6 | 1 | 7 | 14.3% |
| LANCASTER | 106 | 16 | 122 | 13.1% |
| CLEARFIELD | 68 | 10 | 78 | 12.8% |
| CLINTON | 14 | 2 | 16 | 12.5% |
| MONTOUR | 7 | 1 | 8 | 12.5% |
| LEHIGH | 131 | 18 | 149 | 12.1% |
| BEAVER | 22 | 3 | 25 | 12.0% |
| WARREN | 22 | 3 | 25 | 12.0% |
| PERRY | 15 | 2 | 17 | 11.8% |
| ERIE | 95 | 12 | 107 | 11.2% |
| INDIANA | 21 | 1 | 22 | 4.5% |
| CLARION | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0.0% |
| FOREST | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0.0% |
| FULTON | 5 | 0 | 5 | 0.0% |
| GREENE | 9 | 0 | 9 | 0.0% |
| **Grand Total** | **3348** | **840** | **4188** | 20.1% |

1. ***Short min goes by RRRI minimum sentences as the reference 12 months?***

Yes.  These short min calculations included RRRI min dates.

1. ***If RST tool scores higher than a low risk offender, can this offender be part of grant too if county deems to keep?***

Yes. The county can keep offenders they deem appropriate. This solicitation just recommends targeting low risk offenders. It is not a requirement.

1. ***Please explain how the award works.  For example, is the county eligible to receive the entire award, or do we submit quarterly for payment for only those offenders that enter the "diversion program"?***

The payment of the award will be negotiated in the IGA phase. No award will be distributed entirely up front, but can be awarded incrementally based on proof of progress/implementation of the diversion plan and/or reimbursement

1. ***If we keep in county how do the SID numbers get assigned and are they under state parole or our local parole office?***

SIDs should be assigned to inmates when they get fingerprinted for the first time. This information should be available through the Pennsylvania State Police and also should be a part of the offender’s records through the courts. Any person who has ever been arrested in Pennsylvania should have an SID number.

1. ***Can you please clarify - the DOC is not requesting a specific "per diem" rate for inmates?***

No, this award is based on the counties’ diversion plans. It can be used for start-up costs for diverting inmates. It does not necessarily have to be tied on a one-to-one basis to diverted inmates. It should be generally proportional to the number of offenders being diverted though.

1. ***My concern regarding the award is if you have offenders sentenced to diversion towards the end of the award, they are still going to be housed by the county and supervised by the county after the award ends.***

If you are diverting a short min inmate, you can request funding for the cost of their diversion up front before the grant ends. Refer to the budget detail and narrative for the allowable expense categories.

1. ***Who paroles the inmate then?***

If they are housed in a county jail, they are paroled by the sentencing judge and supervised by county parole (not PBPP)

***10a. Does that mean the funds can be used to support probation and parole if not supplantation?***

Yes, funds can be used to support probation and parole as long as it can be demonstrated that the funds are used towards a general plan for diverting short min offenders. For instance one strategy might be to supervise on probation/parole more offenders who are currently in the county jail, freeing up space in the jail to take on short min offenders who are currently being sent to state prison.

***10b. Can funds be used for new hires, or does this violate supplantation?***

Yes, funds may be used for new hires, as long as a significant portion of their budgeted hours are dedicated to the short mins diversion project.

1. ***Just a comment, but moving the deadline would be extremely helpful.***

The PADOC has determined to extend the application deadline to March 1, 2016. All other submission requirements remain the same.