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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

2015-16 COMMUNITY RECIDIVISM REDUCTION GRANT

1. What is the statutory authority for the additional \$4M in funds?

The funding is provided in the Budget Act of 2015, Chapter 11, Statutes of 2015. Penal Code section 1233.10 provides the allocation schedule to counties.

2. Does my Board of Supervisors need to approve the additional FY 15-16 funding by vote?

If your county accepted funding in FY 14-15 and your Board approval did not limit funding to the FY 14-15 funds then your county is not required to re-submit a Board approval. However, if your Board's approval to accept these funds was restricted to the FY 14-15 funds then your county must submit new meeting minutes showing a vote of approval for the FY 15-16 funding. Counties should indicate within their Letter of Interest whether their Board needs to take a vote to approve FY 15-16 funding.

3. What are the expectations regarding the Letter of Interest?

Your county's Letter of Interest, which should be signed by the Board of Supervisors Clerk of the Board or the Chief Administrative Officer, must specify that it would like to accept the additional FY 15-16 funds and that your Board of Supervisors has taken action to accept this additional funding (please refer to question 2 for details). The letter must also indicate that the Community Corrections Partnership is in agreement.

4. If a Board of Supervisors' vote is required for my county to obtain FY 15-16 funding, do the meeting minutes need to be sent at the same time as the Letter of Interest?

No, the Board of Supervisors' meeting minutes can be sent to the BSCC as a follow-up document after September 30, 2015. However, counties should indicate whether a new vote was necessary in its Letter of Interest.

5. Does my county need to initiate a new competitive process for FY 15-16 funding if we completed one in FY 14-15?

If your county completed a competitive process with the FY 14-15 funds, you have two options on how to proceed with FY 15-16 funding: 1) your county can allocate the FY 15-16

funds to service providers that competed for the FY 14-15 funding (please note that an allocation to any service provider is capped pursuant to paragraph (e) of Penal Code section 1233.10); or 2) your county can choose to initiate a new competitive process for FY 15-16 funding.

6. By what date does all the funding need to be encumbered with a service provider?

With the recent amendments to Section 1233.10 (i) of the Penal Code, counties no longer have the restriction of an encumbrance date. You now have four years after receiving these grant funds from the State Controller's Office to award and spend the funds. Any funds not used within this four year period will revert back to the state General Fund. For example, in FY 14-15 counties received funding for the Community Recidivism Reduction Grant on December 5, 2014 which means that they now have until December 5, 2018 to award the grant dollars to service providers and to spend the money.

7. Can counties spend all the allocated funds in less than four years?

Yes, counties have up to four years to award and spend the funds. However, funds can be spent in fewer than four years.

8. What type of data will counties need to collect and when are the findings due to the BSCC?

The BSCC will be collecting data on the number of individuals served and the types of services provided by a service provider on or before January 31, 2016 and annually thereafter until January 31, 2021, as applicable. For each reporting cycle, your county must report on the previous year's activities for each service provider operating with these funds. For example, on January 31, 2016 your county will report on activities from December 5, 2014 – December 31, 2015. If your county has not encumbered all its funds with service providers by a reporting date, you may report on any funds that have been encumbered and provide detailed information on the funds that have not been encumbered.

9. Can counties use any of the grant money for administrative costs?

Yes, your county can use up to five percent of its total allocation for administrative costs.