

Community Reentry Reinvestment Grant 2024-2025

Funding Announcement

Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Tennessee Office of Reentry



Tennessee
Office of Reentry

Community Reentry Reinvestment Grant Funding Opportunity

GRANT OVERVIEW

One third of Tennesseans are justice involved (currently or have been involved in the criminal justice system) and one half of Tennesseans have a family member who has been justice involved. While statistics can be jarring, they are instrumental in understanding the impact that justice involved individuals (JII) have on nearly everyone and therefore, the value of expanding and sustaining reentry efforts across the state.

The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development (TDLWD), Tennessee Office of Reentry (TOOR) exists to assist justice involved individuals overcome barriers to employment, increase successful reentry, and reduce recidivism. TOOR seeks to accomplish these goals through several different strategies one of which is the Community Reentry Reinvestment Grant (CRRG). This competitive grant seeks to involve for-profit, nonprofit, local government, and other organizations to provide a combination of personal support, training opportunities, and work experience, to justice involved individuals that will lead to permanent employment. This cost reimbursement grant will provide funding for eligible entities to address specific regional labor market demand by partnering with a community of practice to identify, upskill and support a pipeline of justice involved individuals into a local industry with an employer partner that is committed to second or fair chance hiring and/or on the job training of the program participant.

The sub-recipient will utilize the **ABC Model-Any Job, Better Job and Career** pathway to allow different levels of justice involved individuals to enter the workforce, upskill to better paying jobs and then position them for long term career employment. The **ABC model** will occur with an emphasis on immediate work in a short-term transitional job (**A-any job**), up-skilling and/or certifications that will allow entrance into more competitive labor (**B-better job**), and then securing **Career-pathway** employment through more developed skills, company advancement or opportunities in other industries.

Both the **A** and **B** portions of this model allow for stepped-down public safety oversight while the participants earn an income and stay connected to the training and development activities needed to gain skills to become full employable in the mainstream labor market. These two steps are also important to gain the time for the participant to identify and advance to a career that can provide the earnings and rewards for a successful life.

Funding Opportunity	Community Reentry Reinvestment Grant
Intended Audience	Community Based Organizations (CBO's) to include but are not limited to: For-profit organizations, Non-profit organizations, Local Government, including County Jails, Faith Based organizations, Local Workforce Development Boards (LWBD's)
Total Funding Available	\$750,000.00
Maximum Award	\$100,000.00
Deadline Date for Proposal Submission	June 5, 2024, no later than 4:30 pm (CST)
Method to submit proposal	Reentry@tn.gov
Contact for Questions/Comments prior to submission deadlines	Sophia Young sophia.young@tn.gov
Technical Assistance Opportunity	Trevor White Trevor.c.white@tn.gov
Performance Period	July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible applicants must meet the following requirements:

- State agency, department, and/or its entity to achieve its goals and objectives, or a non-governmental organization, including, but not limited to for profit, non-profit and faith-based organizations.
- Can show a demonstrated effectiveness of successful history in workforce development with populations who have significant barriers to employment.
- Can collaborate on creating a pathway to permanent employment for justice involved persons.
- Can serve as a registered vendor with the state of Tennessee.
- Responsible for identifying and coordinating the program training, certification and/or up-skilling, etc. that all program participants seek to accomplish.

PROGRAM DESIGN AND REQUIRMENTS:

- Potential subrecipients must establish a pipeline partnership with one of the following entities: local jail, prison, diversionary court, Day Reporting Center, Community Corrections, Community Resource Center, and transitional housing facility to recruit JIIs for program participation.
- Potential subrecipients must have a partnership with the local area American Job Center (AJC) and/or local Adult Education (AE) provider, its programs, and resources. [Find your local American Job Center here](#)
- Potential subrecipients must demonstrate past effectiveness in providing or facilitating industry-standard training and/or certifications that meet the needs of employers in high demand industry sectors that are built on current labor market information report.
- Potential subrecipients must have a partnership with local social service, non-profit, or faith-based organizations, etc. that collaborate to form an ecosystem of support for the targeted population. This ecosystem must provide the necessary wraparound (support) services to ensure successful program completion and integration of the targeted population into the workforce.
- Potential subrecipients must have a partnership with employers in high demand industry sectors according to current Labor Market Research who will agree to a fair chance review, and consideration of employment, and/or on the job training for all program for all program completers using the ABC Model-Any job, Better job, Career pathway. The results should place Justice Involved Tennesseans in jobs and career that pay livable wages, have job longevity, and empowers them to sustain their families.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants are required to submit all proposals electronically, via reentry@tn.gov on June 5, 2024 no later than 4:30 p.m. (CST). The proposal must include a narrative of the proposal, letters of support from all partner entities, a detailed budget (see Additional Fiscal Requirements section below), evidence of past effectiveness of service to JII, and a signed request letter from their CEO, Executive Director, or the equivalent. NOTE: Applicants must meet eligibility requirements described in this announcement. Awards will be made at TOOR's discretion.

THE FORMAL APPLICATION SHOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- Cover Page (Organization Name, all pertinent contact information, amount requested, number of Justice Involved Individuals to be served).
- Grant Proposal Narrative and Expected Outcomes, including evidence of demonstrative effectiveness.
 - Desired service area (i.e., county, city, or other geographic regions) where training, community wraparound services, and potential job placement will occur and the need for the specific workforce development in the stated area using labor market information.
 - Identification of the high demand industry that will be the focus for potential employment, based on current and/or future labor market demands in the geographic area. In addition to at least one employer partner in the high demand industry that will provide a second (fair) chance opportunity for program participants.
 - Program narrative of direct support for participants that can include but not be limited to: on-the-job training, educational and/or vocational services to be provided to participants. Suggested goals are a minimum of 30 participants for **A-any job**, a minimum of 20 participants for a **B-better job training** and a minimum of 10 participants for a **Career pathway**.
 - A mandatory partnership with the local American Job Center in addition to any other entities that provide wraparound support services for program participants.
 - All FY2024 CRRG subrecipients must include programs outcome data as part of the narrative.
- Letters of support from each partner organization that clearly define their role in the program.
- Pipeline Partnership letter of support written and signed by a CEO or designee, Sheriff, Executive Director, or the equivalent.

- Employer partnership letter that commits to fair or second chance opportunity for all program completers.
- Letter of support from local American Job Center One Stop Operator and Team Lead.
- Community wraparound partnering agencies, non-profits, or other non-governmental organizations identified to provide support services to program participants and their role.
- The Federal SF-424A budget and budget narrative must align with the parameters and guidelines provided in the budget guidance and the scope of the budget must be congruent with the proposed program design and targeted population. A maximum of 10% of the total budget may be used for administrative costs.

It is expected that all applications will include the required documents. The CRRG is a cost-reimbursement program, and all expenditures must occur within the relevant timeframe designated by the grant contract. The expected grant period is July 1, 2024, and/or when a contract is signed and returned to TDLWD/TOOR and will end on June 30, 2025.

Applications are due June 5, 2024.

ADDITIONAL FISCAL REQUIREMENTS (if awarded)

- Must be current vendor with the State of Tennessee, please visit the [Edison Supplier Portal Page](#) and complete the process.
- Completion of the following documents:
 - [Supplier Direct Deposit Authorization Form](#)
 - [W-9](#)
 - [SF-42A Budget Template](#)
- Refer to the [Edison Supplier Portal Registration Manual](#) for additional guidance.
- Once the required documents have been received the SmartSimple link will be sent to you to register as a **new organization**
 - If you are currently a vendor with the State of Tennessee, please submit the required documents in your SmartSimple account.
- For Regional Labor Market Information (LMI) refer to this instructional page to obtain LMI for your area: <https://www.tn.gov/workforce/tennessee-economic-data-/lmi.html>
- If you have questions refer to: [Central Procurement Office Supplier Information](#)

GRANT TIMELINE

Funding Announcement Release Date	May 8, 2024
Application Submission Deadline	June 5, 2024
Application Review Period	June 6, 2024 - June 20, 2024
Notification of Awards	Week of June 24, 2024
Contract and Performance Period	July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

Community Reentry Reinvestment Grant (Serving Justice Involved Individuals) Proposal Submission Checklist

- Cover Page
 - Project Title
 - Name of Organization, and all partner organizations
 - Mailing Address of Organization (Fiscal Agent)
 - Project Director's Name, Title, Telephone Number, Email Address, and Mailing Address
 - Desired Grant Amount
 - Projected Number to Serve
 - Geographic Region to be Served

- Acronym List (if needed)
- Table of Contents

- Page Numbering
 - Consecutively numbered, starting with the executive page

- Grant Proposal and Performance Requirements
 - Program Narrative
 1. Geographic Region to be Served
 2. Evidence of "Demonstrative Effectiveness"
 - Industry-standard training and certification
 - General workforce preparedness skills
 - Labor Market information that targets employers who are hiring
 - Previous experience in training and developing workforce
 - Budget (SF-424A) and Budget Narrative (1 year)
 - Partnerships Letters of Support
 - Fiscal Agent's Executive Director, CEO, etc.
 - Population provider (Jail, Prison, Court, etc.)
 - Ecosystem/Wraparound services partners
 - Employers

Community Reentry Reinvestment Grant

(Serving Justice Involved Individuals)

Cover Page

Project Title	
Name of Organization	
Partner Organizations	
Mailing Address of Organization	
Telephone Number	
Project Director's name, title, phone number, email address, and mailing address	
Desired Grant Amount	
Projected Number to Serve (Cost per participant)	
Geographic region to be served	

Community Reentry Reinvestment Grant FAQ

Where will the grant provide services?

Potential subrecipients must identify a desired service area in their application. The service area must identify the need for the designated training or certification of the population based on regional employment opportunities and needs using Labor Market Information. These may include major metropolitan areas, mid-level cities, and/or rural areas. The Tennessee Department of Labor & Workforce Development - Office of Reentry (TDLWD-TOOR) will consult with applicants to ensure services are offered equitably across Tennessee.

What is meant by the ABC Model?

This is a concept that means *“Any Job, Better Job, Career.”* It alludes to the idea that a recently incarcerated person will need an immediate or *“ANY”* job as they reenter society and need to support themselves. After working for awhile and gaining some stability, there is normally a need for a *“BETTER”* job. The better job often requires some upskilling, educational or vocational training for the person to achieve it. After having a better job, the person may then pursue a pathway to a *“CAREER”*. The career may involve additional training, education, or licensure.

What is the total grant award amount?

A total of \$750,000.00 is being made available. Applicants will propose their desired funding amount up to a maximum of \$100,000.00 and will use the guidance found in this document.

How will subrecipients receive funds?

This is a reimbursable grant. Subrecipients will be required to submit requests at least once per month with supporting documentation to be reimbursed for allowable costs.

Is there a match requirement?

No. The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development’s Tennessee Office of Reentry does not require matching funds for this grant.

Are there monthly reporting requirements?

Yes. You will receive an email with a link at the beginning of each month to report outcomes and activities for the prior month. These reports will be due by the 15th of the month.

How do you claim administrative cost?

The actual expenditures along with supporting documentation showing proof of the expense is to be submitted in SmartsSimple.

Can I add career pathways after execution of the grant?

All programmatic and budget changes must be reviewed and approved by TOOR staff Director’s.