

Archived Information

STATE GRANTS FOR INCARCERATED YOUTH OFFENDERS

Goal: To increase access to and achievement in correctional education programs that will aid in the reintegration of prisoners into their communities.

Relationship of Program to Volume 1, Department-wide Objectives: The activities of the State Grants for Incarcerated Youth Offenders Program support Objectives 3.4 (lifelong learning) and 2.4 (special populations receive appropriate services).

FY 2000—\$14,000,000

FY 2001—\$12,000,000 (Requested budget)

OBJECTIVE 1: GRANTEES WILL DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT IMPROVED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS THAT INCLUDE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING.

Indicator 1.1 Improved vocational and academic achievement: By Fall 2000, 75 percent of students participating in vocational and academic programs will complete their annual program curriculum.

| Targets and Performance Data | | | Assessment of Progress | Sources and Data Quality |
|------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--|--|
| Year | Actual Performance | Performance Targets | <p>Status: No data are available at this time to assess progress toward meeting performance targets.</p> <p>Explanation: Congress first enacted this program – and the Department first awarded state grants - in 1998. Performance data will be available in spring 2000.</p> | <p>Source: Grantee evaluation reports. <i>Frequency:</i> Annually. <i>Next Update:</i> Spring 2000.</p> <p>Validation Procedure: The Department will validate data through the use of National Center for Education Statistics review procedures and Statistical Standards.</p> <p>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements: No data limitations are noted.</p> |
| 1999: | No data available | No target set | | |
| 2000: | | 75% | | |
| 2001: | | 85% | | |

OBJECTIVE 2: IMPROVE ACCESS TO POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION AND JOB PLACEMENT PROGRAMS FOR INCARCERATED PERSONS TO HELP OFFENDERS REINTEGRATE INTO THEIR COMMUNITIES AFTER RELEASE.

Indicator 2.1 Increased employment rates following release: By Fall 2001, 50 percent of participants will be employed upon their release.

| Targets and Performance Data | | | Assessment of Progress | Sources and Data Quality |
|------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---|--|
| Year | Actual Performance | Performance Targets | <p>Status: No data are available at this time to assess progress toward meeting performance targets.</p> <p>Explanation: Performance data will be available in spring 2001. Performance targets will be set beginning in fall 2001.</p> | <p>Source: Grantee evaluation reports. <i>Frequency:</i> Annually. <i>Next Update:</i> Spring 2001.</p> <p>Validation Procedure: The Department will validate data through the use of National Center for Education Statistics review procedures and Statistical Standards.</p> <p>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements: No data limitations are noted.</p> |
| 1999: | No data available | No target set | | |
| 2000: | | No target set | | |
| 2001: | | 50% | | |

| Indicator 2.2 Improved recidivism rates: By Fall 2002, recidivism rates for participants will be 10 percent lower than for a comparison group. | | | | |
|---|--------------------|---------------------|--|--|
| Targets and Performance Data | | | Assessment of Progress | Sources and Data Quality |
| Year | Actual Performance | Performance Targets | <p>Status: No data are available at this time to assess progress toward meeting performance targets.</p> <p>Explanation: This study will include data on a sub-sample of correctional education participants who meet minimum eligibility requirements for this state grant program. Given varying release dates, as well as ample time to gather recidivism data – for at least one year after release - performance data will be available in spring 2002.</p> <p>Given the first availability of performance data in spring 2002, performance targets will be set beginning in fall 2002.</p> | <p>Source: Grantee Evaluation Reports. Correctional Education Association Recidivism Study. <i>Frequency:</i> Annually. <i>Next Update:</i> Spring 2002.</p> <p>Validation Procedure: The Department will validate data through the use of National Center for Education Statistics review procedures and Statistical Standards.</p> <p>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements: This study will not be able to track the recidivism of all students who participate in correctional education programs funded through this state grant program.</p> |
| 1999: | No data available | No target set | | |
| 2000: | | No target set | | |
| 2001: | | No target set | | |
| 2002: | | 10% | | |

KEY STRATEGIES
Strategies Continued from 1999

- ❖ With limited information available to grantees concerning effective correctional education approaches, the program will continue developing a network among grantees to exchange information on promising correctional education strategies.
- ❖ As a result of difficulties grantees encounter in the area of data collection, the program will continue assisting state grantees to improve their data collection systems, beginning with the initial compilation of baseline information on student’s participation and completion rates.

New or Strengthened Strategies

- ❖ To address the need of grantees to identify relevant education and job training information, the program is helping grantees to locate appropriate regional information on postsecondary education and job placement programs for students after their release.

HOW THIS PROGRAM COORDINATES WITH OTHER FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

- ❖ In an effort to identify promising approaches and to strengthen technical assistance efforts in correctional education and job training and placement programs, the Office of Correctional Education participates in the interagency Coordinating Council on Correctional Education with representatives from within the Department, such as Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Office of Postsecondary Education, and the Office of Legislative and Congressional Affairs and other Federal agencies, including the Department of Justice, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Department of Labor.

CHALLENGES TO ACHIEVING PROGRAM GOAL

- ❖ Given the recent enactment of this program and unavailability of data to assess progress to date, no challenges are noted at this time.

INDICATOR CHANGES

From FY 1999 Annual Plan (two years old)

Adjusted—None.

Dropped

- ❖ **Improved participation in post-release assistance programs (1.2).** This indicator was dropped due to a lack of a reliable and consistent instrument to collect data across states.
- ❖ **Improved participation in GED programs (2.1).** This indicator was dropped because a GED is a prerequisite for participation in the program.

From FY 2000 Annual Plan (last year's)

Adjusted

- ❖ All indicators have been adjusted to include numerical performance targets.
- ❖ **Improved recidivism rates (1.3)** was moved to be more appropriately placed under Objective 2, which addresses reintegration of individuals into their communities after their release.
- ❖ **Improved academic and vocational achievement (1.2).** By fall 2000, student achievement scores on testing measures will improve and the number of students obtaining vocational skill certificates will increase.
- ❖ **Increased participation in job placement programs and improved job retention rates (2.1).** By fall 2000, the rate of students obtaining jobs and retaining jobs will be higher than those of comparison groups. This indicator was modified to lessen the emphasis on the outcome of placement in programs and heighten the emphasis on the more direct outcome of obtaining employment.

Dropped

- ❖ **Improved completion rates (1.1).** Although an increase in the number of students completing educational programs remains a high priority, this indicator was dropped due to a lack of a reliable and consistent instrument to collect data across states.
- ❖ **Improved access to information on postsecondary education programs and job placement programs (2.2).** External peer reviews/customer satisfaction surveys of Office of Correctional Education technical support and mail response will show increasing satisfaction with quality of information provided. Although customer satisfaction with Office of Correctional Education products and services remains a high priority, this indicator was dropped due to the lack of a reliable and consistent instrument to collect data across states. Data from multiple sources will be tracked internally to assess progress in meeting this indicator.

New—None.