

Adult Reentry Grant Executive Steering Committee


**ISSUE PAPER:
To Guide the Development of a
Request for Proposals (RFP)**

November 8-9, 2021

Adult Reentry Grant Executive Steering Committee Issue Paper

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**Adult Reentry Grant (ARG) Program
Issues for the Executive Steering Committee (ESC)
Request for Proposals (RFP)
November 8-9, 2021**

Funding Authority: The State Budget Act (Annual Appropriation)

Funding Stream: State General Fund

Funding Amount: \$67,000,000 –The Adult Reentry Grant Program funds are to be allocated as follows:

- \$31,825,000 shall be available for rental assistance. Priority shall be given to individuals released to state parole.
- \$31,825,000 shall be available to support the warm handoff and reentry of offenders transitioning from state prison to communities. Priority shall be given to individuals released to state parole.
- Up to 5% (\$3,350,000) shall be available to the Board of State and Community Corrections for costs to administer the grant programs.

Grant Intent: The Adult Reentry Grant (ARG) program provides funding for community-based organizations (CBOs) to deliver housing stabilization and reentry services for people formerly incarcerated in state prison.

Background: The ARG Program was established in the 2018 Budget Act (Senate Bill 840, Chapter 29, Statutes of 2018) and received additional funding through the Budget Act of 2019 (Assembly Bill 74, Chapter 23, Statutes of 2019) and the Budget Act of 2020 (Assembly Bill 89, Chapter 7, Statutes of 2020).

The Budget Act of 2021 (Assembly Bill 128, Chapter 21, Statutes of 2021) appropriated additional funding to award competitive grants to community-based organizations (CBOs) to support individuals formerly incarcerated in state prison. The Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) is required to form an ESC with members from relevant state agencies and departments with expertise in public health, housing, workforce development, and effective rehabilitative treatment for adult offenders to develop grant-program criteria and make recommendations to the Board regarding grant award decisions.

INTRODUCTION

This Issue Paper is presented to the Adult Reentry Grant (ARG) Executive Steering Committee (ESC) as a guide to the Request for Proposals (RFP) development during its November 2021 meeting.

The materials for this ESC meeting include copies of the full texts of SB 840, AB 128, Housing First Principles, and copies of the initial and modified RFP's that were used for Cohorts I & II.

The purpose of this Issue Paper is to guide a meaningful and focused discussion on key topics and related decision points that will help us develop a Request for Proposal (RFP).

This Issue Paper is broken into sections with corresponding headers. Each section is marked as either "Information Only" or "Action Item." BSCC staff and the ESC Chair will guide the discussion through these sections. Please note:

- Sections marked as **Information Only** are there to provide background information and identify requirements or mandates. These sections will generate the discussion that will inform decisions as the group moves along.
- Sections that request input and/or decisions by the ESC are designated as **Action**.

As the group moves through the Issue Paper, staff will be listening to the discussion and taking notes. It is likely that some issues will generate significant discussion. Where the ESC is not able to reach consensus, staff will attempt to identify outstanding issues and suggest next steps. Staff will incorporate the decisions that are made and the priorities discussed into a draft RFP. At a subsequent meeting, the ESC will review the draft RFP and provide feedback. As a part of this process, staff will also lead the ESC in the development of the scoring criteria.

NOTES:

1. GRANT CYCLE

Action

Grant Award Period: October 1, 2022 to XXXX (to be determined).

BSCC award periods are typically for 3 years for grantees to spend the funds and will usually include an additional 3-6 months to account for implementation and close-out activities.

❖ **ESC DECISION POINTS. Consider and make decisions on the following:**

A. What should be the length of the grant cycle?

Issues to consider:

- Start-up challenges for grantees (i.e., hiring new staff, etc.)
- Organizational infrastructure or program design challenges
- Data collection and program evaluation challenges

NOTES:

2. GENERAL DEFINITIONS

Action

AB 128 states that the “Board is required to award competitive grants to community-based organizations (CBOs) to support individuals formerly incarcerated in state prison.” The legislation further stipulates that funding shall be available for rental assistance and to support the warm handoff and reentry of people transitioning from state prison to parole, with priority being given to individuals released to state parole.

There are several terms that benefit from further definition or clarification if used in the RFP.

❖ ESC DECISION POINTS. Discuss, consider, and make decisions on the following:

- A. How should Community-Based Organization (CBO) be defined?
 - The prior RFP defined CBO’s as those organizations located in the State of California that have been determined by the IRS to have 501(c)(3) status (i.e., nonprofit).
 - Should there be any modifications to this definition?
- B. How should rental assistance be defined?
 - HUD’s HOME Investment Partnerships Program defines Tenant-Based Rental Assistance as “a rental subsidy that PJs (participating jurisdictions) can use to help individual households afford housing costs such as rent and security deposits. PJs may also assist tenants with utility deposits but only when HOME is also used for rental assistance or security deposits.”¹
 - Are there any limits on services to be offered that should be included with the ARG rental assistance definition?
- C. How should warm hand-off **and** reentry of individuals transitioning from prison to communities be defined?
 - The National institute of Corrections (NIC) describes reentry as “the transition of offenders from prisons or jails back into the community.”² Additionally, in their “Transition from Jail to Community Initiative Practice Brief,” the NIC identifies the importance of jails, CBOs, and supervision agencies working together to meet the needs of the returning population, both while incarcerated and upon release. The brief indicates, “it is imperative that jurisdictions use an effective case management process that includes a strong community handoff component, particularly at the moment of release, and that ensures continuity of care between in-jail and community-based programs and services.”³

¹ https://www.hud.gov/sites/documents/20655_ch07.pdf

² <https://nicic.gov/reentry-annotated-bibliography>

³ <https://s3.amazonaws.com/static.nicic.gov/Library/026912.pdf>

- Are there any limits on services to be offered that should be included with the ARG Warm Handoff and Reentry definition?
- D. How should formerly incarcerated and/or transitioning from state prison be defined?
- Are there time frames to consider for previous incarceration?
- E. Are there any other terms that need to be defined?

NOTES:

3. HOUSING FIRST PRINCIPLES

Action

In 2016, the California Legislature passed Senate Bill 1380 (Mitchell).⁴ It required all housing programs to adopt the Housing First model. The Legislation defined Housing First with these “core components”:

- A. Tenant screening and selection practices promote accepting applicants regardless of their sobriety or use of substances, completion of treatment, or participation in services.
- B. Applicants are not rejected on the basis of poor credit or financial history, poor or lack of rental history, criminal convictions unrelated to tenancy, or behaviors that indicate a lack of "housing readiness."
- C. Housing providers accept referrals directly from shelters, street outreach, drop-in centers, and other parts of crisis response systems frequented by vulnerable people experiencing homelessness.
- D. Supportive services emphasize engagement and problem solving over therapeutic goals and service plans that are highly tenant-driven without predetermined goals.
- E. Participation in services or program compliance is not a condition of housing tenancy.
- F. Tenants have a lease and all the rights and responsibilities of tenancy.
- G. The use of alcohol or drugs in and of itself, without other lease violations, is not a reason for eviction.
- H. Funding promotes tenant selection plans for supportive housing that prioritize eligible tenants based on criteria other than "first-come-first-serve," including, but not limited to, the duration or chronicity of homelessness, vulnerability to early mortality, or high utilization of crisis services.
- I. Case managers and service coordinators are trained in and actively employ evidence-based practices for engagement, including motivational interviewing and client-centered counseling.
- J. Services are informed by a harm-reduction philosophy that recognizes drug and alcohol use and addiction as a part of tenants' lives, where tenants are engaged in nonjudgmental communication regarding drug and alcohol use, and where tenants are offered education regarding how to avoid risky behaviors and engage in safer practices, as well as connected to evidence-based treatment if the tenant so chooses.
- K. The project and specific apartment may include special physical features that accommodate disabilities, reduce harm, and promote health and community and independence among tenants.⁵

SB 1843 further established the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council to oversee the implementation of the Housing First guidelines and regulations and, among other things, to identify resources, benefits, and services that can be accessed to

⁴ Codified as California Welfare & Institutions Code § 8255.

⁵ https://www.riversideca.gov/homelessolutions/pdf/CSH_Housing_First_Fact_Sheet.pdf

prevent and end homelessness in California. Agencies and departments administering state programs created on or after July 1, 2017, shall collaborate with the coordinating council to adopt guidelines and regulations to incorporate core components of Housing First.

❖ ESC DECISION POINTS. Discuss, consider, and make decisions on the following:

- A. How should the Housing First principles be addressed in the RFP?
- How should these principles be applied to Rental Assistance projects vs Warm Handoff projects?
- B. What is the definition of harm reduction as it applies to Housing First principles?
- Cohort 1 RFP used the definition of harm reduction from the Corporation for Supportive Housing: Harm reduction is a set of practical strategies that reduce negative consequences of drug use. It incorporates a spectrum of strategies that move through stages of safer use, managed use, and abstinence. Harm reduction strategies meet drug users “where they’re at,” addressing conditions of use with the use itself. It can also be used to address other behavioral health concerns.

Harm Reduction Principles:

- The individual has a voice in the process and identifies goals and a path to achieve them
- Workers raise awareness of risk and strategies to reduce harm
- The focus is on reducing harm, not consumption
- There are no pre-defined outcomes
- Abstinence may be a goal but alternatives to reduce risk are equally valued
- The Individual’s decisions to engage in risky behaviors is accepted
- Does not condone risk that can cause serious harm
- The individual is expected to take responsibility for his or her own behavior
- The individual is treated with dignity
- Recovery is a non-linear process
- Services are highly accessible: low barriers, informal atmosphere, extended hours⁶

- C. What is the definition of “housing” and “housing-related services” as it applies to Housing First principles?
- D. Should there be a rating factor, or criterion within a rating factor, assigned to evaluate how well a proposal addressed Housing First Core Concepts? If so, this will be identified later during the rating factor development component.

NOTES:

⁶ Corporation for Supportive Housing <http://www.homelesshouston.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/2a-Harm-Reduction-9-2014.pdf>

4. APPLICATION STRUCTURE AND SCORING SYSTEM OPTIONS

Information

As established in the previous RFP, applicants may apply for one or both “pots of funding” (i.e. rental assistance or warm handoff and reentry) using a sub-application system that provides the overall criteria for the application process and then sub-applications by project type. Each sub-application will receive an independent score used for ranking and funding.

NOTES:

5. ELIGIBILITY

Action

AB 128 states that the “Board is required to award competitive grants to community-based organizations (CBOs) to support individuals formerly incarcerated in state prison.”

INFORMATION:

Administrative Criteria for CBO Applicants

BSCC already requires that all non-governmental organizations (NGOs) meet certain criteria in order to receive BSCC grant funds. These criteria were developed so that BSCC had assurance that the non-governmental entities receiving grant funds—either as a grantee or a sub-grantee—had the required certifications, licenses, and experience to provide the services proposed. The language shown below appears in all RFPs issued by the BSCC:

Any non-governmental, community organization that receives grant funds to:

- Have been duly organized, in existence, and in good standing six months prior to the release of the RFP (non-governmental organizations that have recently reorganized or have merged with other qualified non-governmental organizations that were in existence prior to release of the RFP are also eligible provided all necessary agreements have been executed and filed with the California Secretary of State prior to the start date of the grant agreement
- Be registered with the California Secretary of State’s Office, if applicable;
- Have a valid business license, Employer Identification Number (EIN), and/or Taxpayer ID (if sole proprietorship);
- Have any other state or local licenses or certifications necessary to provide the services requested (e.g., facility licensing by the Department of Health Care Services), if applicable.
- Have a physical address.
- Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) include: community-based organizations (CBOs), faith-based organizations (FBOs), non-profit organizations/501(c)(3)s, evaluators (except government institutions such as universities), grant management companies and any other non-governmental agency or individual.

Note: These criteria do not apply to government organizations (e.g. counties, cities, school districts, etc.).

The prior RFP established eligibility to be solely for “Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) located in the State of California that have been determined by the IRS to have 501(c)(3) status (i.e., nonprofit).”

The prior RFP also established that eligible applicants may submit more than one application (i.e., one for rental assistance and one for warm handoff), as well as allowing an eligible applicant with multiple field offices or satellite projects to submit one

proposal covering all (or multiple) field offices and satellite projects. It also allowed CBOs to partner with other CBOs/NGOs to submit an application, however, only one nonprofit CBO could be the lead applicant responsible for all aspects of grant administration and management.

For improved tracking and oversight, current grantees with projects concluding in 2023 (those in Cohort I Warm Handoff and Rental Assistance, as well as those in Cohort II Rental Assistance) will be eligible to apply for Cohort III but will be precluded from claiming or expensing Cohort III funds until the existing funds have been depleted.

❖ ESC DECISION POINTS. Discuss, consider, and make decisions on the following:

- A. Are there any additional eligibility criteria that the CBOs should meet?
- B. Are there any other eligibility considerations to be identified?
- C. Can a CBO apply as a joint applicant **and** as an individual CBO for either or both project types?

NOTES:

6. TARGET POPULATION

Action

The target population in AB 128 is defined as individuals formerly incarcerated in state prison with priority for those released to state parole. This precludes serving individuals who have not been in state prison.

❖ ESC DECISION POINTS. Discuss, consider, and make decisions on the following:

- A. Does the ESC wish to further define the target population?
 - The legislation indicates that priority shall be given to individuals released to state parole. How should “**priority**” be defined in the RFP?
- B. Will applicant proposals need to include a description of how the target population is identified according to any the following?
 - Previous history of incarceration in state prison?
 - Referral process?
 - Risk/Needs assessment?
 - Duration of services?
 - Other
- C. Will applicant proposals need to document how they will confirm they are using funds *only* for individuals formerly incarcerated in state prison?
- D. Is there a minimum number of participants to be targeted for services over the life of the project? (i.e. unduplicated participants for some services, etc)

NOTES:

7. PROMISING, DATA-DRIVEN, AND INNOVATIVE APPROACHES

Action

Informational: Whenever possible, BSCC encourages grantees to employ the core principles of evidence-based practice (EBP), which places an emphasis on achieving measurable outcomes, and making sure the services provided and the resources utilized are effective.

While grantees are encouraged to develop projects that incorporate the principles of evidence-based practice, BSCC also recognizes that services must be tailored to fit the needs of the communities within which they serve. Innovation and creativity are permitted but should be founded upon existing data and research on best practices in this field.

The prior RFP used the following language:

The BSCC is committed to supporting a focus on better outcomes in the criminal justice system and for those involved in it. Applicants that seek funding through this grant process should use research and data driven decision-making in the development, implementation, and evaluation of the grant-funded projects.

The extent to which an applicant can demonstrate that the program and/or activities they have chosen has been shown to be effective will be evaluated as a part of the rating process. In developing a proposal, it may be helpful for applicants to consider the following questions:

- 1. Is there evidence or data to suggest that the intervention or strategy is likely to work, i.e., produce a desired benefit?** *For example, was the intervention or strategy selected used by another jurisdiction with documented positive results? Is there published research on the intervention chosen to implement showing its effectiveness? Is the intervention or strategy being used by another jurisdiction with a similar problem and similar target population?*
- 2. Once an intervention or strategy is selected, will you be able to demonstrate that it is being carried out as intended?** *For example, does this intervention or strategy provide for a way to monitor quality control or continuous quality improvement? If this intervention or strategy was implemented in another jurisdiction, are there procedures in place to ensure that the model is followed closely?*
- 3. Is there a plan to collect evidence or data that will allow for an evaluation of whether the intervention or strategy worked?** *For example, will the intervention or strategy selected allow for the collection of data or other evidence so that outcomes can be measured at the conclusion of the project? Are there processes in place to identify, collect, and analyze that data/evidence?*

Applicants are encouraged to develop a project that incorporates these evidence-informed principles but is tailored to fit the needs of the communities they serve.

❖ **ESC DECISION POINTS. Discuss, consider, and make decisions on the following:**

- A. Is the BSCC approach to evidence-based practice appropriate for this RFP?
- B. If not, what modifications are necessary?
- C. Should ARG **only** fund programs, practices or strategies demonstrated to be effective? If so, according to what definition? Should the applicant be required to cite where it was determined their program, practices, or strategies is evidence-based or a promising practice?
- D. How should the applicant address their use of evidence-based practices in their proposal?

NOTES:

8. ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

Action

The statutory language authorizing the Adult Reentry Grant Program did not specify the types of rental assistance and warm handoff services to be funded. As such, the prior RFP stipulated that applicants should select programs/services that best fit the needs of the community served. Furthermore, the prior ESC placed a priority on services that lead to permanent housing and the provision of critical-time intervention that meets the immediate needs of individuals upon their release from prison or from placement by parole in residential treatment.

The tables below include examples of the types of Rental Assistance and Warm Handoff Reentry related services that could be funded per the prior RFP:

| Examples of Eligible Rental Related Services Sub- Application Table 1 | Examples of Eligible Warm Handoff and Reentry Sub- Application Table 2 |
|--|--|
| <p>Including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short-term emergency housing assistance • Landlord incentives • Permanent supportive housing • Rent subsidies • Transitional housing • Stipends to families willing to house target population • Vouchers • Move in costs • Credit repair • Coverage of back rent | <p>Including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reach-in services • Case management services • Housing Navigation • Transportation • Food • Emergency services • Employment/vocational • Social services • Behavioral health care • Mentors • Transitional services • System navigation • 24-hour response |

Let's address these one at a time as they relate to the definitions that were established earlier.

❖ **ESC DECISION POINTS. Discuss, consider, and make decisions on the following:**

A. Rental Assistance

1. Based on our earlier conversation defining rental assistance, what types of activities are appropriate?
 - a. What changes, additions, etc., if any, should be made to the list in Table 1?

2. How should the applicant address these services and approaches in the proposal?
3. Will there be minimum requirements for service delivery? If so, what are they?
4. Are there rental assistance services/approaches this RFP will not fund?
5. How can the proposal best instill or overlay the Housing First principles?
6. What readiness factors, if any, should be in place at the time of application?
7. Should the applicant be required to provide a minimum length of program implementation? If so, what is an acceptable minimum length of program implementation?
8. Will there be a timeline or work plan requirement that demonstrates all contracts and services will be in place to support completion of the project by the end of grant period? This could include local hiring processes.

NOTES:

B. Warm handoff and reentry of individuals transitioning from prison to communities

1. Based on our earlier conversation defining warm handoff and reentry, what types of activities are appropriate?
 - a. What changes, additions, etc., should be made to the list in Table 2?
2. How should the applicant address these services and approaches in the proposal?
3. Will there be minimum requirements for service delivery? If so, what are they?
4. Are there services/approaches this RFP will not fund? If so, what are they?
5. How can the proposal best instill or overlay the Housing First principles ***specifically*** for warm handoff and reentry submissions?
6. What readiness factors, if any, should be in place at the time of application?
7. Should the applicant/implementing agency be required to provide a minimum length of program implementation? If so, what is an acceptable minimum length of program implementation?
8. Will there be a timeline or work plan requirement that demonstrates all contracts and services will be in place to support completion of the project by the end of the grant period? This could include local hiring processes.

NOTES:

9. DATA COLLECTION AND EVALUATION

Action

As a matter of standard BSCC practice, all grantees are required to submit a Local Evaluation Plan within three to six months of being awarded. The purpose of a Local Evaluation Plan is to ensure programs funded by the BSCC can be evaluated.

All grantees are also required to submit a Local Evaluation Report at the conclusion of the grant. The purpose of the Local Evaluation Report is to determine whether the overall program (including each project component) was effective in meeting the goals laid out in the Local Evaluation Plan.

❖ ESC DECISION POINTS. Discuss, consider, and make decisions on the following:

- A. The prior RFP did not include a requirement for a Local Evaluation Plan or Local Evaluation Report. Should this be reconsidered?
- B. If yes, how much funding should applicants be required to dedicate to Data Collection and Evaluation efforts?
 - a. 5%, 10%, 15%, etc.
 - b. Should applicants be encouraged or required to work with an outside research entity (i.e., local university, research firm, etc.) on its evaluation efforts versus being allowed to complete the work in-house?
- C. What performance outcome requirements should be included? How are these different by project type (rental assistance vs warm handoff)?
- D. What data points or metrics should be required in the Quarterly Progress Report to determine whether the project is on track in meeting necessary critical steps of progress development? How are these different by project type (rental assistance vs warm handoff)?

NOTES:

10. FUNDING CONSIDERATIONS

Action

The Adult Reentry Grant Program funds are to be allocated as follows:

- \$31,825,000 shall be available for rental assistance. Priority shall be given to individuals released to state parole.
- \$31,825,000 shall be available to support the warm handoff and reentry of offenders transitioning from state prison to communities. Priority shall be given to individuals released to state parole.
- Up to 5% (\$3,350,000) shall be available to the Board of State and Community Corrections for costs to administer the grant programs.

❖ ESC DECISION POINTS. Discuss, consider, and make decisions on the following:

- A. Will there be a cap (minimum and maximum limit) for each of the types of funding an applicant can apply for?
- Rental assistance maximum limit is currently at \$3,000,000. Below are examples or other funding caps that could be applied and how many projects would potentially be funded if all applicants asked for the maximum amount allowed:

ARG Rental Assistance Cohort 3 Funding Scenarios

| Total \$ | \$ 31,825,000 | | # of Applicants |
|------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Max Request Scenario A | \$ 3,000,000 | Possible # awardees w/ Scenario A | 10.6 |
| Max Request Scenario B | \$ 2,500,000 | Possible # awardees w/ Scenario B | 12.7 |
| Max Request Scenario C | \$ 2,000,000 | Possible # awardees w/ Scenario C | 15.9 |
| Max Request Scenario D | \$ 3,500,000 | Possible # awardees w/ Scenario D | 9.1 |

- Warm handoff and reentry of individuals transitioning from prison to communities currently has a maximum limit of \$500,000. Below are examples of other funding caps that could be applied and how many projects would potentially be funded if all applicants asked for the maximum amount allowed:

ARG Warm Handoff Cohort 3 Funding Scenarios

| Total \$ | \$ 31,825,000 | | # of Applicants |
|------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Max Request Scenario A | \$ 500,000 | Possible # awardees w/ Scenario A | 63.7 |
| Max Request Scenario B | \$ 750,000 | Possible # awardees w/ Scenario B | 42.4 |
| Max Request Scenario C | \$ 1,000,000 | Possible # awardees w/ Scenario C | 31.8 |
| Max Request Scenario D | \$ 1,500,000 | Possible # awardees w/ Scenario D | 21.2 |

- Should the funds be divided based on geography or population?
 - If yes, how?
 - What amount?

- C. The prior RFP was divided into sup-applications and applicants competed against the entire applicant pool within the sub-category. Are there additional considerations or approaches to review?

- D. What level of budget information will be required within the RFP?
 - Standard line items on the BSCC invoice include: Salaries and Benefits, Services and Supplies, Professional Services, Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) Contracts, Indirect Costs, Financial Audit, Fixed Assets/Equipment, Data Collection/Evaluation and Other.

NOTES:

11. SELECTION PROCESS/TECHNICAL REVIEW

Action

The selection process for this funding is conducted through a competitive-bid process and proposals will be rated via a merit review process to determine which organizations best meet the intent and the requirements of this RFP.

However, prior to forwarding the proposals to the ESC members for reading and rating, BSCC staff typically review the materials submitted by the applicants to determine whether they meet the technical RFP requirements such as ensuring the proposal:

- Meets all format requirements (font, spacing and page limitations).
- Contains all required sections, including any required attachments.
- Contains all required signatures.

❖ **ESC DECISION POINTS. Discuss, consider and make decisions on the following:**

1. When determining the RFP narrative sections, should page limits, font size, and limits on attachments be imposed? If so, what should those limits be?
2. Are there other issues to be considered for the technical review?

NOTES:

Senate Bill 840

Chapter 29

Adult Reentry Grant Program – Budget Act 2018

5227-110-0001—For local assistance, Board of State and Community
Corrections 50,000,000

Schedule:

(1) 4945-Corrections Planning
and Grant Programs
..... 50,000,000

Provisions:

1. Funds appropriated in this item shall be awarded by the Board of State and Community Corrections as competitive grants to community based organizations to support offenders formerly incarcerated in state prison. The board shall form an executive steering committee with members from relevant state agencies and departments with expertise in public health, housing, workforce development, and effective rehabilitative treatment for adult offenders, including, but not limited to, the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Office of Health Equity, county probation, representatives of reentry-focused community based organizations, criminal justice impacted individuals, and representatives of housing-focused community based organizations, to develop grant program criteria and make recommendations to the board regarding grant award decisions.
2. Of the amount appropriated in this item:
 - (a) \$25,000,000 shall be available for rental assistance.
 - (b) \$15,000,000 shall be available for the rehabilitation of existing property or buildings for housing offenders released from prison.
 - (c) \$9,350,000 shall be available to support the warm hand-off and reentry of offenders transitioning from prison to communities.
 - (d) Notwithstanding Provision 1 of this item, \$150,000 shall be available to support the Berkeley Underground Scholars Initiative at the University of California, Berkeley.
3. Of the amount appropriated in this item, \$500,000 shall be available to the Board of State and Community Corrections for transfer to Schedule (1) of Item 5227-001-0001 for costs to administer the grant programs and report on program outcomes. Funds transferred pursuant to this provision are available for encumbrance or expenditure until June 30, 2021.
4. Funds appropriated in this item are available for encumbrance or expenditure until June 30, 2021.

Assembly Bill 128
Chapter 21
Adult Reentry Grant—Budget Act of 2021

5227-103-0001—For local assistance,
Board of State and Community Corrections
67,000,000

Schedule:

(1) 4945-Corrections Planning and Grant Programs
67,000,000

Provisions:

1. Of the amount appropriated in this item, \$67,000,000 shall be awarded by the Board of State and Community Corrections as competitive grants to community-based organizations to support offenders formerly incarcerated in state prison. Of the amount identified in this provision, up to 5 percent shall be available to the Board of State and Community Corrections for transfer to Schedule (1) of Item 5227-001-0001 for costs to administer the grant programs. Funds transferred pursuant to this provision are available for encumbrance or expenditure until June 30, 2024. Of this amount:

(a) \$33,500,000 shall be available for rental assistance. Priority shall be given to individuals released to state parole.

(b) \$33,500,000 shall be available to support the warm handoff and reentry of offenders transitioning from state prison to communities. Priority shall be given to individuals released to state parole.

(c) The board shall form an executive steering committee with members from relevant state agencies and departments with expertise in public health, housing, workforce development, and effective rehabilitative treatment for adult offenders, including, but not limited to, the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Office of Health Equity, county probation departments, representatives of reentry-focused community-based organizations, criminal justice impacted individuals, and representatives of housing-focused community-based organizations to develop grant program criteria and make recommendations to the board regarding grant award decisions.

2. Funds appropriated in this item are available for encumbrance or expenditure until June 30, 2024.
