



JRI Site Selection Eligibility Criteria

A jurisdiction can submit a letter of interest to be either a Phase I or a Phase II JRI site. **Phase I** sites will receive intensive technical assistance to start the justice reinvestment process, which involves engaging leaders and key stakeholders, analyzing criminal justice data, and identifying strategies to reduce costs and increase public safety. **Phase II** sites will receive both targeted technical assistance and funding to support the implementation of justice reinvestment strategies. Sites that apply to be Phase II sites must have already completed all of the steps associated with Phase I.

The sections below detail the eligibility criteria for Phase I and Phase II of JRI.

PHASE I

Eligibility Criteria for Phase I Sites:

1. **Commitment of Leadership:** *Evidence of project support among key leaders in the jurisdiction is critical. The leaders will include the governor, legislators, mayor, county executive or commissioners, judges, sheriff, other law enforcement executives, defense bar, prosecutors, chief of corrections, directors of probation/parole/community corrections, and victims' advocates.*
2. **Data Capacity and Information-Sharing Commitment:** *While candidate sites will not be expected to have a fully developed integrated electronic data management system in place, they should have the basic capacity to access information relevant to current criminal justice populations (e.g., crime, arrests, average daily population, length of stay, population characteristics), procedural information (e.g., case processing times, failure to appear rates, revocation rates), related costs data (e.g., jail/prison costs, arrest costs, court processing costs, other relevant social and human services), and be willing to share this information, as appropriate. These data will be necessary not only to create a strong justice reinvestment process but also to measure performance and program success along desired outcomes through an external evaluation.*
3. **A Jurisdictional "Champion:"** *The candidate site will need a leader influential in the given jurisdiction to champion systems change and interagency collaboration and partnership. A champion may be the director of the state or local corrections agency, the sheriff, the district attorney, the mayor, the governor, the chief judge, the speaker of the jurisdiction's house or senate, a legislator, a county commissioner, or a tribal council leader. The leadership may include more than one person, but regardless the leader(s) should have the authority and influence to enlist stakeholder and community buy-in and long-term commitment for the initiative. While it is important that the success of an initiative not depend on one person, a champion can build support and provide a vision for the process.*
4. **An Existing Infrastructure in Place:** *Given the nature of this effort, there must be an infrastructure in place to support the project. It will not be possible to build all of the capacity needed in the relatively short time frame of this initiative.*
5. **System-Wide Partnership in Place:** *A collaborative relationship among members of the criminal justice system and social/human services agencies and organizations is essential for the success of this initiative.*

6. **Cognizance and Utilization of Evidence-Based Practices:** *Given the field's knowledge about practices that lead to better outcomes, it is imperative that the candidate site understands and is committed to evidence-based principles of effective intervention. Under ideal circumstances, the site is already utilizing risk/needs assessments, alternatives to detention and incarceration, including pretrial services, day reporting, and supervision technologies such as electronic monitoring, GPS, and alcohol monitoring, prior to implementation of the justice reinvestment process.*

Desirable but not Required Criteria:

1. **Promise of In Kind or Cash Match**
2. **Past Training of (and/or Plans to Train) Relevant Criminal Justice Staff on Evidence-Based Practices.**

PHASE II

Eligibility Criteria for Phase II Sites:

1. **Completed all Phase I Activities:** *Demonstrate commitment and completion of all Phase I activities, including a data analysis that clearly explains the drivers of the criminal justice system population and related costs; a presentation of policy options that have the potential for justice reinvestment and the support of the existing interagency coordinating committee; and projected costs and savings that are expected to result from the implementation of proposed policies, practices, and/or programs. The adopted policy options must clearly address the criminal justice drivers that emerged from the data analysis.*
2. **Reinvestment Strategy:** *A decision that is supported by all relevant stakeholders of where and how savings will be reinvested.*
3. **Political and Programmatic Feasibility to Implement Policies:** *The site has broad support from the criminal justice institutional and community stakeholders to implement and track the policies in a timely manner (within three months for non-capital projects; within 12 months for projects involving capital changes).*
4. **Capabilities to Track Cost and Population Impacts of Intervention:** *Documented effects of implemented interventions are necessary to determine the impact of the justice reinvestment process. The site may use Phase II technical assistance and/or funding to track anticipated effects resulting from the implementation of any policies.*

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