
BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2024

Fiscal Services Division

July 1, 2023



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

Department of Corrections — State Criminal Alien Assistance Program

Purpose and History

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) within the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) administers the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) in cooperation with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) of the federal Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The SCAAP reimburses states and local jurisdictions for incarcerating undocumented criminal aliens with at least one felony or two misdemeanor convictions for violations of state or local law who are incarcerated for at least four days.

Application Process

All 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, and cities and counties with correctional facilities are eligible to apply. Eligible jurisdictions submit applications to the OJP, which include correctional officer salary costs (excluding benefits), the number of eligible inmates and the number of days each was held, and inmate information. The OJP transmits the applications to the DHS for verification of the number of eligible inmates and to update the criminal alien database. The BJA makes grant awards to jurisdictions based on the number of eligible inmates as determined by the DHS, the costs submitted, and the amount of funds awarded by the U.S. Congress. Grant awards may be prorated based on available funding.

Grant Awards and Use of Funds

The BJA awards grants that must be used for correctional purposes only. Grants may be used for salaries, wages, and benefits paid to employees who work primarily and directly in the correctional facility; the reasonably allocable portion of salaries, wages, and benefits paid to employees who do not primarily and directly work in the correctional facility but provide necessary services either to the correctional facility or to individuals incarcerated in the correctional facility; and repair, maintenance, and overhead costs reasonably attributable to the operation of the correctional facility.

The Iowa Department of Corrections (DOC) has used past grant awards for overtime and training for correctional officers related to offender population management, corrections workforce recruitment and retention, the training and education of offenders, and technology for offender management or interagency information sharing.

More Information

U.S. Department of Justice: [justice.gov](https://www.justice.gov)

U.S. Department of Homeland Security: [dhs.gov](https://www.dhs.gov)

Iowa Department of Corrections: [doc.iowa.gov](https://www.doc.iowa.gov)

LSA Staff Contact: Molly Kilker (515.725.1286) molly.kilker@legis.iowa.gov

There is a time lag between submitting applications, reporting data, and receiving federal funds. For example, applications for federal FY 2020 were due in August 2021 (State FY 2022) for grants scheduled to be received in State FY 2022, based on data from the reporting period of July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019 (State FY 2019).

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapters [356](#) and [904](#)
Iowa Administrative Code [201](#)

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