



Community Incentive Grant (CIG) Program

Louisiana Department of Public Safety & Corrections

What is the Community Incentive Grant program?

The Community Incentive Grant (CIG) is a Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections funding opportunity that was created by Act 261 of the Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI) legislation passed in 2017. The Department of Corrections reinvests 30% of the state's criminal justice savings each fiscal year into grants for community-operated evidence-based programs and alternatives to prison that aim to reduce recidivism and decrease the state's prison population.

One of these programs, the Communitive Incentive Grant (CIG) program, was launched in 2018. As of April 2021, the Department of Corrections has conducted two competitive funding rounds resulting in 17 CIG contracts with community organizations and local governments. Each CIG contract lasts three years, and is focused on parishes that account for most of state's population returning to the community from prison (i.e. Orleans, Jefferson, EBR, Caddo, St. Tammany, Bossier, Calcasieu, Lafayette, Lafourche, Ouachita, Rapides and Terrebonne).

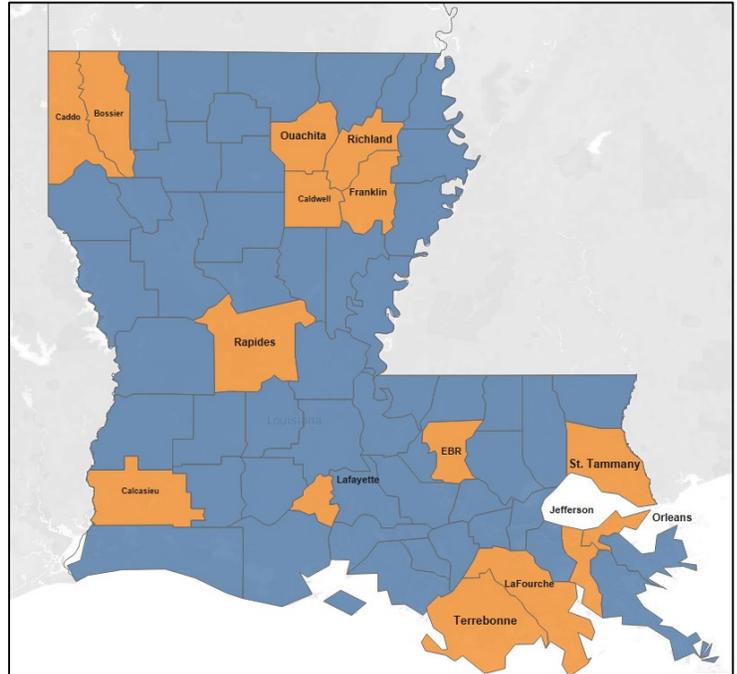


Figure 1: CIG Community Organizations in the State of Louisiana, by parish

Who is eligible to receive CIG services?

In general, CIG organizations support individuals who are currently incarcerated and are about to release from DOC custody, or individuals who have just been released from DOC incarceration. There are a couple CIG providers who also support participants in authorized pretrial diversion or intervention programs.

An incarcerated person is CIG eligible if they meet the following criteria:

1. **Currently serving a felony sentence with Louisiana DPS&C**, and
2. **Returning home to a parish** where the CIG provider is authorized to provide services, and
3. **Will be released within the next 12 months** (preferably within 3 to 6 months' pre-release), and
4. **Assessed as Moderate or High Risk** based on the TIGER risk assessment

Note: Some CIG Providers have additional eligibility criteria, or serve a specific target population.

An individual who was recently released from DOC incarceration is CIG eligible if they are:

1. **Currently under supervision** with the Division of Probation and Parole (i.e. parole or probation), and
2. **Currently living in a parish** where the CIG provider is authorized to provide services, and
3. **Was recently released from incarceration** within the last 3 to 6 months, or **was recently placed under probation** within the last 3 to 6 months, and
4. **Assessed as Moderate or High Risk** based on the TIGER risk assessment

Note: Some CIG Providers focus services on participants they can serve pre- and post-release.

What services do CIG providers offer?

CIG organizations provide intensive case management to evaluate and address each participant’s needs, pre- and post-release. Each CIG Provider has their own unique participant engagement strategies; however, most providers follow this basic model explained below.

Pre Release: While incarcerated, a participant attends an orientation of services with the CIG provider. If interested, the participant completes intake paperwork with their CIG case manager and begins planning for their needs upon release. The participant can follow-up with their case manager periodically about their case plan until they are released.

The CIG organization also works closely with facility staff. In some facilities, the CIG organization meets weekly with facility staff to review each CIG participant’s progress.

At-Release and Post-Release: Once an individual is released, CIG community organizations provide or refer individuals to a variety of services, and follow up for 3 to 12 months’ post-release. Case managers facilitate access to legal documentation, and enroll clients in social service benefits for which they qualify. CIG providers also coordinate with community partners, local reentry coalitions and Probation & Parole to ensure participant success.

CIG Participant Engagement

- **Pre-Release (6 months before release):** Orientation to services, case management, reentry planning
- **At Release:** Case management, addressing immediate needs, connection to community resources
- **Post Release (3-12 Months):** Case management, addressing short-term and long-term needs, continued connection to community resources
- **Pre-Trial or Pre-Sentencing (If Applicable):** Case management for an authorized pre-trial or presentencing diversion program

Services Provided by Most CIG Providers



Services Provided by Some CIG Providers



How do I refer someone to a CIG program?

For community members, you can reach out to the JRI Office at jriprograms@la.gov and we can connect you with the appropriate community provider in your area.

Please note, the community organization will conduct additional screening to ensure that the participant is eligible for CIG services.

Who are the CIG Organizations?

CIG Contractor	Parish(es) Served	Participant or Program Focus
Break Free Education (formerly Center for Educational Excellence in Alternative Settings) Program Name: T.H. Rises	Orleans	Young adults (18-22 years old) who have been enrolled in the Travis Hill School at Orleans Justice Center
Catholic Charities of New Orleans	Orleans, St. Tammany	
Goodwill of North Louisiana Program Name: NELA Exit Reentry Program	Ouachita, Franklin, Richland, Caldwell	
Goodwill of Southeastern Louisiana (Houma)	Lafourche, Terrebonne	Includes a pre-trial diversion program
Goodwill of Southeastern Louisiana (Orleans)	Orleans	
Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office Program Name: Project RCT (Rebuilding Community Together)	Lafayette	Intensive career and technical training in custodial management and fiber optic installation and management Participants are those currently incarcerated at LPSO, with case management post-release
Life of a Single Mom Program Name: Single Mom Prison Initiative	Statewide, focus on East Baton Rouge	Single mothers (or grandmothers) with children under 18
Louisiana Parole Project <i>Note: Recipient of two CIG contracts</i>	Residential Program in: East Baton Rouge (Also serves individuals returning back to Orleans, St. Tammany, Caddo, Jefferson, Bossier, Calcasieu, Lafayette, Lafourche, Ouachita, Rapides, Terrebonne)	People Serving Long Sentences (20 Years+), including: lifers (Act 277), 40-year lifers (Act 280) and others incarcerated for 20 or more years (Act 790 and 1099) released by the Committee on Parole
Odyssey House of Louisiana	Calcasieu, Lafayette	Expertise in treating substance abuse
Orleans Public Defenders Program Name: GOFAR Program	Orleans	Includes a pre-sentencing diversion program; Serves participants who are currently, or were, legally represented by OPD
Southern University at New Orleans	Orleans	People under P&P supervision with interest in entrepreneurship and building a business
United Way of Northwest Louisiana Program Name: EXIT 318 <i>Note: Recipient of two CIG contracts</i>	Caddo, Bossier	
United Way of Southeast Louisiana	Jefferson	
United Way of Southwest Louisiana Program Name: Calcasieu Prisoner Reentry Initiative	Calcasieu	
Volunteers of America – North Louisiana Program Name: Rapides Prisoner Reentry Initiative	Rapides	

Questions?

For more information about the Community Incentive Grant, please contact the Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI) Office, Department of Corrections, at jriprograms@la.gov.