

The Department of Education's  
*Experimental Sites Initiative*

**Second Chance Pell:  
Pell for Students Who Are Incarcerated**

September 2015

# Agenda

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- Overview of the Experiment

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- How to Apply

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- The Evaluation

# Responsibilities of Institutional Offices



**Administrative Capability**  
**668.16(b)(1) and (4)**

# Second Chance Pell: Pell for Students Who Are Incarcerated

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## Objective

- Examine how providing Pell Grants to incarcerated students influences their participation in educational opportunities as well as academic and life outcomes
- Examine any challenges or obstacles to an institution's administration of title IV HEA programs to incarcerated students

## Second Chance Pell: Pell for Students Who Are Incarcerated

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The experiment will allow participating postsecondary institutions to provide Federal Pell Grant funding to otherwise eligible students who are incarcerated in Federal or State penal institutions, but who will be eligible for release into the community; particularly those who are likely to be released within five years of enrollment in the program

# Second Chance Pell: Pell for Students Who Are Incarcerated

## Waivers

Law/Regulation	Description
Section 401(b)(6) of the HEA	Provides that students who are incarcerated in a Federal or State penal institution are not eligible to receive Federal Pell Grant funds.
34 CFR 668.32(c)(2)(ii)	For purposes of the Federal Pell Grant Program— ...Is not incarcerated in a Federal or State penal institution;

# Exceptions

The following student eligibility restrictions are not waived:



- Convictions for drug possession or sale while receiving title IV aid (Section 484(r) of the HEA)
- Involuntary civil commitment after incarceration for sexual offenses (Section 401(b)(6))
- Cost of attendance provision for incarcerated students (Section 472(6))

# Requirements

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Student Consideration: Likely To Be Released within Five years



Likely to be released?



Is 5 years a “hard release”?

# Requirements

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Completion of Program



Must be able to complete program  
post release

# Requirements

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## Employment



Must ensure students are not enrolled in a program that prepares them for careers in fields where they face legal barriers to employment.

# Requirements

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## Academic and Career Guidance



Must provide academic and career guidance

# Requirements

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Supplement NOT Supplant



This experiment is intended to supplement not supplant existing investments in postsecondary prison-based education programs

# Requirements

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## ATB/Career Pathway Provisions



Students without a high school credential and the Career Pathway provisions

See [Dear Colleague Letter GEN-15-09](#)

# How to Apply

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## Letters of Application

- Should be on institutional letterhead
  - Signed by the institution's financial aid administrator
- Must include the institution's official name and OPEID, mailing address, email address, FAX number and telephone number of a contact person, and a request to be considered for participation in this Second Chance Pell: Pell for Students Who Are Incarcerated experiment.
- Send as a PDF file to: [experimentalsites@ed.gov](mailto:experimentalsites@ed.gov) no later than October 2, 2015

# Application Review

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- Round One

Review of the institution's history of the administration of Federal Title IV Aid (for example, audits and program reviews)

- Round Two

Review information about the institution's intended program

# Program Participation Agreement



**FSA sends the school the Amendment to the PPA**

**School signs and returns hard copy document via delivery service**



**FSA sends the school a countersigned amendment to the PPA and a welcome letter**

- School retains copies of both of those documents for their records

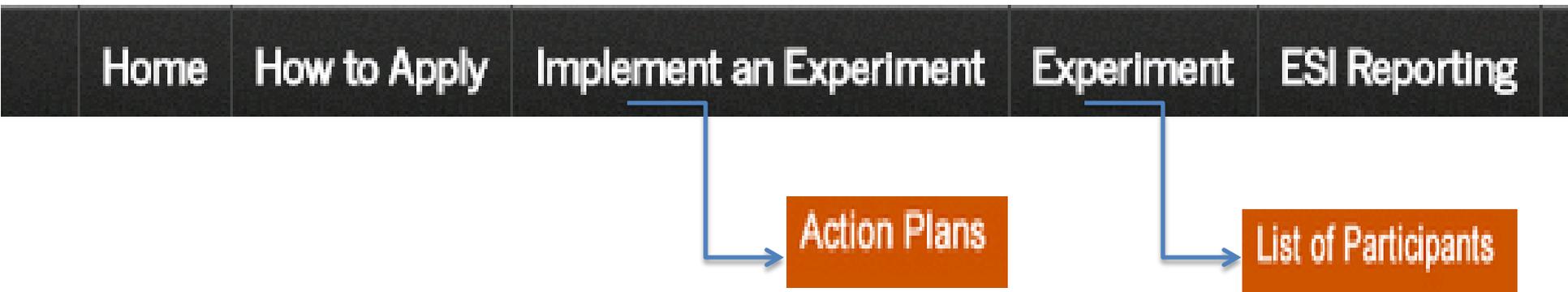
# Evaluation and Reporting

The Department's evaluation of the experiment will include:

Information Type	Possible Data Sources
Institution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)</li><li>▪ Institutional Experimental Site Survey and Narrative Descriptions</li><li>▪ Common Origination and Disbursement (COD)</li><li>▪ National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS)</li></ul>
Program(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Institutional Experimental Site Survey and Narrative Descriptions</li></ul>
Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR) Data</li><li>▪ Common Origination and Disbursement (COD)</li><li>▪ National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS)</li><li>▪ Institutional Experimental Site Survey and Narrative Descriptions</li></ul>

# Experimental Sites Initiative Website

<https://experimentalsites.ed.gov>



# Contact Information

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# Questions and Answers