About JFF

Our rapidly changing economy demands skilled and adaptable workers. But too many people lack the education and training employers require.

JFF is a nonprofit, transforming our nation’s workforce and education systems to accelerate economic advancement for all.
Ascendium invests in initiatives designed to increase the number of students from low-income backgrounds who complete postsecondary degrees, certificates, and workforce training programs, with an emphasis on first-generation students, incarcerated adults, rural community members, students of color, and veterans.
Rebecca Villareal
Director – Education Philanthropy

Leading Ascendium’s Education Philanthropy team to elevate opportunities for learners from low-income backgrounds so they can better achieve their postsecondary educational and career goals.
REady for Pell

Initiative Overview

• Designed to strengthen post-secondary education programs in prison and support readiness for Pell implementation

• Grantees receive support and funding:
  • Cohort-wide and tailored technical assistance from JFF and initiative partner CSG Justice Center and connections to other leaders in the field of higher education in prison, including impacted individuals
  • Funding to build capacity for program development and Pell administration

• Third party evaluation with three components - implementation, impact and student experience – will inform grantees practice and share lessons learned with the field. The evaluator will be selected on or before December 3, 2021.
Application Highlights

Eligibility – Individual Institution
Title IV eligible institutions that do not currently administer Pell in the postsecondary education program in the prison

Expected number of Grantees
• 20-30 institutions
• Includes the individual colleges included in the system’s cohort

Proposal Length
• 10 pages
• Double spaced

Eligibility – Postsecondary Systems
Community college and four-year college or university systems office with a minimum of two institutions that meet the institution eligibility requirements

Funding Range
• Up to $100,00 – $125,000 for individual colleges
• $50,000 for college systems to support a coordinating function
• Funding amount can be used over two years

Project Duration
• Two years
• December 2021 – December 2023
Submit proposals to AskReadyForPell@jff.org

Proposals Due
Submit proposals to AskReadyForPell@jff.org

Decisions Announced
Award and declination notices distributed to applicants

November 24, 2021

December 17, 2021
Q&A

All questions are welcome!

Please type your questions in the chat
For more information, please visit our [web page](#), or reach us at [AskReadyforPell@jff.org](mailto:AskReadyforPell@jff.org)