The Harvard Kennedy School Social Impact Bond Technical Assistance Lab will accept applications for short-term technical assistance providing an independent review of key aspects of pay for success (PFS) projects. Pro bono technical assistance will be awarded to Government Partners already engaged in PFS projects. The most suitable proposals will be selected through review by the SIB Lab based on criteria described below. This assistance is made possible by grants from the Corporation for National and Community Service Social Innovation Fund and the Pritzker Children’s Initiative.

**Award components**

Through its experience providing full-time government-side technical assistance on pay for success projects, the SIB Lab has developed expertise in all stages of PFS design and implementation, including data analysis, financial modeling, contract drafting, and project implementation. Selected Government Partners will receive short-term pro bono technical assistance from the SIB Lab to conduct an independent review of an aspect of an ongoing pay for success project. Examples of a SIB Lab independent review might include whether a proposed payment schedule is based on solid evidence about the relationship between improved outcomes and government savings, whether proposed contract terms are in the public interest, or whether proposed evaluation methodologies will yield sufficiently reliable evidence about program effectiveness.

**Application details**

This program is open to U.S. state, county, and city governments. A downloadable application form and additional information about the pay for success model can be found on our website: [www.hks-siblab.org/apply/](http://www.hks-siblab.org/apply/). The independent review approach may be especially appropriate for governments already engaged in a PFS project without full-time government-side technical assistance.

**Eligibility Criteria**

1) **Memorandum of understanding.** To be considered eligible for the selection process, governments will need to be willing to enter into an MOU with Harvard University over the terms of the pro bono technical assistance.

2) **Knowledge sharing.** If selected, Government Partners should, to the extent legally permissible, be willing to make key final documents from the PFS development process publicly available, including feasibility studies, contracts, and evaluation plans.

3) **SIF Focus Areas:** Project policy areas should be consistent with at least one of the three FY 2014 CNCS Social Innovation Fund (SIF) focus areas: Youth Development, Economic Opportunity, and Healthy Futures.
About the HKS SIB Lab
The Harvard Kennedy School’s Social Impact Bond Technical Assistance Lab (SIB Lab) conducts research on how governments can accelerate progress in ameliorating difficult social problems and improve the results they obtain with their social spending. An important part of our research model involves providing pro bono technical assistance to state and local governments interested in pursuing pay for success (PFS) contracts using social impact bonds (SIBs). Through this hands-on involvement, we gain insights into the barriers that governments face and the solutions that can overcome these barriers. These insights are ultimately published in academic papers and policy briefs. We are currently working with eight states and two cities. Our partner governments have produced three of the five U.S. pay for success projects that have reached the service delivery stage and have another 10 projects under development. The SIB Lab is located within the Taubman Center for State and Local Government at the Harvard Kennedy School. The director of the SIB Lab is Professor Jeffrey Liebman. For more information please visit us at hks-siblab.org.

About the Social Innovation Fund
The Social Innovation Fund (SIF) is a powerful approach to transforming lives and communities that positions the federal government to be a catalyst for impact—mobilizing public and private resources to find and grow community solutions with evidence of strong results. A key White House initiative and program of the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Social Innovation Fund has the simple, but vital goal of finding solutions that work, and making them work for more people. The SIF unites public and private resources to evaluate and grow innovative community-based solutions that have evidence of results in low-income communities in any of three priority areas: economic opportunity, healthy futures, and youth development.