
Statewide Misdemeanant Confinement Program

Costs Savings for the State of North Carolina

North Carolina Sheriffs' Association



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1. Overview

Created by the Justice Reinvestment Act (JRA) of 2011 (G.S. 148-32.1) the Statewide Misdemeanant Confinement Program (SMCP) allows participating North Carolina county jails to house DWI offenders as well as inmates convicted of a misdemeanor and sentenced to 91 days or more.

This program was developed to redirect low-level State offenders to county jails rather than state prisons. The SMCP, managed by the North Carolina Sheriffs' Association (NCSA), reimburses these counties for the housing, transportation and medical expenses incurred while those inmates are in their county jail.

The following charts show a breakdown of the monetary savings to the state of North Carolina since the SMCP began operating on January 1st, 2012.

2. Inmate Medical Costs Management Plan

In-jail medical expenses are provided by the sheriff's office as part of the daily \$40 housing reimbursement, and no additional reimbursement to the county is provided for these expenses.

Sheriffs' offices are provided with an Inmate Medical Subscriber Identification card to give to a medical provider when an SMCP inmate must be taken out-of-jail for medical care. This is similar to a health insurance card. The card is used in conjunction with the Inmate Medical Costs Management Plan (the Plan) (G.S. 148-19.3) which negotiates the bill, ensures there are no duplicate charges and that provider rates are in accordance with G.S. 153A-225.2. This statute limits what counties have to reimburse medical providers and facilities for out-of-jail medical expenses.

Once the medical provider's bill has been reviewed by the Plan and a final bill has been submitted to the SMCP, the SMCP pays the amount of the final bill.

The Plan has saved the State a total of 59% of all out-of-jail medical costs for SMCP inmates from 2012 to 2022.

3. Attachments

Based on the most recently available data on custody and medical costs, the following charts reflect housing and out-of-jail medical savings for the state of North Carolina for SMCP inmates. Without the SMCP, sheriffs' offices and the Department of Adult Correction would both incur expenses for transportation and supervision of inmates. For that reason, those costs are not included in these charts.

3.1 Attachment 1 – Total Savings for SMCP Inmates

Attachment 1 details the combined total housing and out-of-jail medical costs savings for medium custody inmates confined in state prisons. Medium custody status most closely represents the custody level of most SMCP inmates.

3.2 Attachment 2 – SMCP Housing Savings

Attachment 2 details the total housing costs savings calculations for medium custody inmates.

3.3 Attachment 3 – Out-of-Jail Medical Costs Savings for SMCP Inmates

Attachment 3 details the out-of-jail medical savings processed by the NCSA's Inmate Medical Costs Management Plan for SMCP inmates.

Attachment 1

Total Savings for SMCP Inmates

| Fiscal Year | Housing Savings | Medical Savings | Total Savings to State of NC |
|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2012 | \$8,632,836 | \$10,017 | \$8,642,853 |
| 2012-2013 | \$11,773,126 | \$124,444 | \$11,897,570 |
| 2013-2014 | \$10,157,589 | \$170,486 | \$10,328,075 |
| 2014-2015 | \$13,198,337 | \$333,189 | \$13,531,526 |
| 2015-2016 | \$20,912,334 | \$678,771 | \$21,591,105 |
| 2016-2017 | \$25,691,436 | \$234,644 | \$25,926,080 |
| 2017-2018 | \$29,640,149 | \$495,262 | \$30,135,411 |
| 2018-2019 | \$29,971,140 | \$736,157 | \$30,707,297 |
| 2019-2020 | \$31,676,118 | \$607,467 | \$32,283,585 |
| 2020-2021 | \$12,310,753 | \$1,073,696 | \$13,384,449 |
| 2021-2022 | \$26,664,509 | \$979,593 | \$27,644,102 |
| Totals | \$220,628,327 | \$5,443,726 | \$226,072,053 |

Attachment 2

SMCP Costs Savings - Housing

| Fiscal Year | Total Days SMCP Inmates Housed in County Jails* | Average DAC Cost Per Inmate Per Day - Medium Custody | Projected Cost to DAC to House Inmates without SMCP | SMCP Housing Reimbursement to Counties | Savings to State |
|------------------|--|--|--|--|----------------------|
| 2012** | 239,801 | \$76 | \$18,224,876 | \$9,592,040 | \$8,632,836 |
| 2012-2013 | 301,875 | \$79 | \$23,848,125 | \$12,074,999 | \$11,773,126 |
| 2013-2014 | 241,847 | \$82 | \$19,831,454 | \$9,673,865 | \$10,157,589 |
| 2014-2015 | 306,938 | \$83 | \$25,475,854 | \$12,277,517 | \$13,198,337 |
| 2015-2016 | 418,247 | \$90 | \$37,642,230 | \$16,729,896 | \$20,912,334 |
| 2016-2017 | 442,956 | \$98 | \$43,409,688 | \$17,718,252 | \$25,691,436 |
| 2017-2018 | 478,067 | \$102 | \$48,762,834 | \$19,122,685 | \$29,640,149 |
| 2018-2019 | 461,095 | \$105 | \$48,414,975 | \$18,443,835 | \$29,971,140 |
| 2019-2020 | 381,640 | \$123 | \$46,941,720 | \$15,265,602 | \$31,676,118 |
| 2020-2021 | 227,977 | \$94 | \$21,429,838 | \$9,119,085 | \$12,310,753 |
| 2021-2022 | 286,715 | \$133 | \$38,133,095 | \$11,468,586 | \$26,664,509 |
| Total | 3,787,158 | | \$372,114,689 | \$151,486,362 | \$220,628,327 |

*Number is calculated by dividing SMCP total housing spending each fiscal year by \$40 SMCP reimbursement to reach an approximate number of days.

**Pursuant to Session Law 2011-192 (G.S. 148-32.1), the SMCP became available statewide on January 1st, 2012.

Note: The amounts in this chart do not include (1) overhead or (2) in-jail or in-prison medical costs for county jails or the North Carolina Department of Adult Correction (DAC). These amounts also do not include administrative expenses allocated by the General Assembly associated with the operation of the program by the NCSA (\$1M) and DAC (\$225K) because DAC does not include administrative expenses in their custody costs for inmates.

Attachment 3

SMCP Cost Savings - Out-of-Jail Medical

| Fiscal Year* | Out-of-Jail Medical Costs Billed for SMCP Inmates | Actual Medical Costs Paid by SMCP | Savings Obtained by NCSA's Program | Annual Percentage Saved |
|---------------------|--|--|---|--------------------------------|
| 2012 | \$106,693 | \$96,676 | \$10,017 | 9% |
| 2012-2013 | \$240,656 | \$116,212 | \$124,444 | 52% |
| 2013-2014 | \$342,979 | \$172,493 | \$170,486 | 50% |
| 2014-2015 | \$455,316 | \$122,127 | \$333,189 | 73% |
| 2015-2016 | \$1,206,222 | \$527,451 | \$678,771 | 56% |
| 2016-2017 | \$496,765 | \$262,122 | \$234,644 | 47% |
| 2017-2018 | \$997,358 | \$502,096 | \$495,262 | 49% |
| 2018-2019 | \$1,232,107 | \$495,950 | \$736,157 | 59% |
| 2019-2020 | \$950,574 | \$343,107 | \$607,467 | 64% |
| 2020-2021 | \$1,592,169 | \$518,473 | \$1,073,696 | 67% |
| 2021-2022 | \$1,637,230 | \$657,637 | \$979,593 | 60% |
| Totals | \$9,258,069 | \$3,814,343 | \$5,443,726 | Percentage Savings: 59% |

*Medical costs billed and savings are reflected in the fiscal year in which the costs were paid, and not necessarily in the fiscal year when medical services were rendered.