In a cross involving the pigeonpea ($Cajanus\ cajan$) line D_6 (medium-duration), the variety ICPL1 (short-duration) and their F_1 , F_2 and F_3 generations, mean, range, variance and coefficient of variance of time to 50% flowering were evaluated. On average, the time to 50% flowering of the F_1 -hybrid was below the mid-parental value and above that of the earlier-flowering parent. In the F_2 , a wide range of flowering showed a continuous distribution skewed towards earliness. A high estimate of heritability (0.75) for time to 50% was recorded, and additive gene action and partial dominance of earliness were concluded.