

Improving Public Safety by Positively Changing Lives

Education Services

November 2024



FY24 HIGHLIGHTS

6,141

6,141 individuals, **48%** of the population, participated in education programs

707

707 High School Diplomas and/or GED® certificates awarded

1,011

1,011 college academic and vocational certificates awarded

106

106 postsecondary associate (87) and bachelors (19) degrees awarded

IMPACT

✚ Incarcerated people who participate in postsecondary education programs are **48 percent** less likely to recidivate than those who do not. (Vera Institute of Justice, 2020)

✚ **For every dollar invested in education in WA, 19.74 is saved** from reduced recidivism. (Washington State Institute for Public Policy, 2023)

About

Washington is a national leader in delivering quality educational programming to a significant proportion of the Department of Corrections incarcerated population. DOC aims to provide basic academic skills, pre-apprenticeship, and postsecondary education programs designed to meet the individual's needs and enhance post-release employment and/or education pathways.

Through a partnership between DOC, the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, colleges and universities, and private partnerships, Washington's correctional education system provides opportunities for incarcerated students to earn a high school equivalency, learn high-wage and high-demand workforce skills, and earn postsecondary certificates and degrees.

- ✚ Incarcerated individuals are provided education and employment reentry support through a state-wide network of facility- and community-based education reentry navigators.
- ✚ Referrals are prioritized based on risk level, individual needs, expected release date, and availability of program resources.

Education Pathways

Every facility offers adult basic education programs to provide pathways for individuals to obtain a high school equivalency. Education pathways include three bachelor's degrees, eighteen associate degrees, thirty-six certificate programs, and eleven state-recognized pre-apprenticeship programs. All credit-bearing programs are accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.

Autobody Collision and Repair | Automotive Mechanics Technology | Bookkeeping Business Administration and Management | Carpentry | Construction Trades Computer Numerical Controlled Manufacturing (CNC) | Diesel Technology | Digital Design | Direct-Transfer Degrees | Drywall, Roofing, and Siding | Entrepreneurship Facilities Maintenance | Game Design and Development | Graphic Design and Web Development | Hair Design | Horticulture, Floriculture, and Organic Farming | HVAC Technology | Leadership | Liberal Studies | Machinist Technology | Pastry and Specialty Baking | Technical Design | Technical Support | Trades Related Coaching | Web Developer Applications | Welding Technology



College & Program Partners

Airway Heights Corrections Center

Spokane Community College

Cedar Creek Corrections Center

Centralia College

Clallam Bay Corrections Center

Peninsula College

Coyote Ridge Corrections Center

Walla Walla Community College

Mission Creek Corrections Center for Women

Olympic College

Monroe Correctional Complex

Edmonds College

Olympic Corrections Center

Peninsula College

Stafford Creek Corrections Center

Grays Harbor College

The Evergreen State College

Washington Corrections Center

Centralia College

Washington Corrections Center for Women

Clover Park Technical College

Freedom Education Project Puget Sound

Olympic College

University of Puget Sound

Washington State Penitentiary

Walla Walla Community College

Community Education Partnerships:

Centralia College

Clark College

Clover Park Technical College

Columbia Basin College

Edmonds College

Pierce College

Renton Technical College

Seattle Central College

Skagit Valley College

Spokane Community College

South Seattle College

The Evergreen State College

University of Washington Tacoma

Yakima Valley College

Expanding Education Programs

Student Access to Federal and State Financial Aid

In FY24, the legislature passed Substitute Senate Bill 5953, allowing students to utilize federal and state financial aid. DOC is partnering with stakeholders and postsecondary education institutions to expand educational opportunities up to a bachelor's degree.

DOC initiated a Request for Information from all WA State colleges interested in providing education programs to individuals utilizing Title IV Pell Grant funds and the Washington College Grant.

All financial aid-eligible correction education programs must first receive approval from DOC, a national accrediting agency, and the U.S. Department of Education. To date, DOC has approved 10 college programs at seven sites. As colleges complete approval process, student access to financial aid is anticipated to begin in fiscal year 2025.

Enhancing Student Success

Secured Internet Access

To support our college partners in ensuring high-quality educational program delivery, the department has implemented an Off State Network Project, to include a Secured-internet system for educational use in classrooms.

Statewide implementation was completed at all facilities in FY24, and each site is equipped for operational use. SBCTC and college partners are currently migrating to the OSN, and currently, all sites utilizing the OSN for GED® testing.

Student Support Services

DOC has collaborated with our education partners to develop a process to ensure students who may have a learning disability are assessed and provided accommodations to support equal access to education through college student disability offices.



Contact information:

Dominic Winter, M.Ed.

Education Services Administrator

Washington State

Department of Corrections

dominic.winter@doc.wa.gov

(253) 318 4181