



**Oregon Juvenile Department Directors'
Association**
Representing Oregon's County Juvenile Departments
www.ojdda.org

- Jim Goodwin, President
- Molly Rogers, President Elect
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The Oregon Juvenile Department Directors' Association is requesting increased funding for Juvenile Detention Education (JDEP) and Youth Correctional Education Programs (YCEP) to \$5.4 million dollars.

All 12 county operated detention centers in Oregon have JDEP programs operating within their facilities. ODE is responsible in statute for providing the education at these sites. Youth enter detention centers directly from the community and often are disengaged from school. Many have been pushed out of the public school setting because of the many barriers they face and they are ill-equipped to advocate for their own needs in a socially appropriate way. This ties directly into the School to Prison Pipeline conversation.

Common Barriers:

- Unidentified learning disabilities.
- Poverty.
- Youth behaviors have led to them being disciplined out of traditional educational programs.
- Language barriers.
- Undiagnosed mental health disorders.
- Education is not a priority/value in their family system.
- Trauma – Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE's).

Who are our youth:

- 2,619 youth were admitted to county detentions in 2020.
- 91 percent of youth admissions were aged 13-17.
- 36.4% of admissions were youth of color.
- 25% of population served is female.
- 28% youth have SPED designation in 2019. The statewide average percentage for SPED students in public schools is about 14%.

JDEP programs provide:

- 5.5 hours of education each weekday. ([OAR 581-015-2590](#))
- 220 days of instruction. ([OAR 581-022-2320](#))
- Individualized learning opportunities in small learning settings.
- Stable environment for academic testing.
- Re-engagement in the learning process, building on successes.
- Developmentally appropriate and trauma focused approaches.
- Individualized Education Plan (IEP) implementation.
- Juvenile Departments engage with families to improve educational outcomes.

Concerns of OJDDA:

- Provide 220 day school year but funding only supports 180 days of instruction. This 20% more instruction days than public school districts yet we receive the same funding.
- ODE has been supplementing programs (\$465,000 2020) to ensure that there is at least 1 full-time licensed teacher in each program.
- ODE has notified JDEP sites that this supplemental funding will no longer be available beginning in the 2021-2022 school year.
- ADMw isn't enough to support a full time teacher in smaller JDEP sites.

- ODE has indicated that it will take \$4.1 million dollars to provide minimum funding for JDEP programs. The request of \$5.4 million will provide equitable services to those received in school districts.
- Remember sites are required to provide 5.5 hours of education daily 220 days a year whether there is 1 youth or 50 in the program.
- We are concerned about equity in education in relation to the youth's placement at various detention centers. Youth in JDEP programs need enhanced education.
- The public educational system and our society have had historically low expectations for delinquent youth.
- These low expectations are supported by unstable and inadequate funding for our JDEP programs— this a strong message to our youth - Our Actions Speak Louder Than Words.
- Weighting assigned to youth is inconsistent based on where they are. JDEP 1.5, YCEP 2.0, community school setting could be receiving up to a weight of 3.0. Youth should have the same supports available regardless of setting if we truly want them to be successful.

What we Know:

- These youth need more than minimal services.
- Relationships with educators are a key factor in a student's success in attending, learning and graduating.
- Education in a stable small setting can be a key first step for these youth getting back on track educationally.
- Educational success and engagement is a key factor in youth desisting from delinquent behavior.

- JDEP programs are an **opportunity** to evaluate and re-engage youth in the learning process and once again become part of the educational system.

OJDDA would like to thank you for support to increase funding for the JDEP and YCEP programs to help improve educational outcomes for one of Oregon's most vulnerable populations of youth.

JDEP Sites

Klamath, Josephine, Jackson, Douglas, Lane, Linn, Marion, Lincoln, Deschutes, Yamhill, Multnomah, NORCOR

Capacity – 320 youth