## Prison Education Programs

# OREGON COALITION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION IN PRISON (OCHEP)

Prof. Shaul Cohen, Chair of OCHEP and Director, UO Prison Education Program Senate Education Committee Presentation Wednesday, December 11, 2024 The National Institute of Justice designated postsecondary education as an evidence-based practice

A study by the Rand Corporation shows that even non-degree oriented participation in HEP is highly beneficial during and after incarceration

Evaluating the Effectiveness of Correctional Education A Meta-Analysis of Programs That Provide Education to Incarcerated Adults, 2013



IMAGE PR



OVIDED BY UNIVERSITY OF OREGON PRISON EDUCATION PROGRAM



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## Higher Education in prisons in Oregon

### **OCHEP Members**

**Central Oregon Community College Chemeketa Community College Corban University Eastern Oregon University Portland Community College Portland State University Treasure Valley Community College University of Oregon** 

## **Prisons With HEP Activities**

CRCI, CCCF, DRCI, OSCI, OSP, SCI, SRCI

## **Economic benefits of higher education in prison**

Compared to the costs of incarceration, every dollar spent on prison education saves around **\$5** by reducing incarceration due to recidivism. Compared to the cost of re-incarceration, education offers a 400% return on investment for taxpayers.

Source: Lois M. Davis, Jennifer L. Steele, et al., 2014, 81.

INCREASED WELL-BEING AS A RESULT OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN PRISON Acknowledging that the question of who is "deserving" of affordable education... we argue that there are many other benefits associated with higher education.... For example, enhanced self-esteem and coping skills, specific academic skills and abilities, meaningful social connections (from contacts with students and faculty), and "soft skills" are frequently cited as benefits of higher education.

Moore, S. Y., & Erzen, T. (2023). The Well-Being Impacts Associated with College in Prison: A Comparison of Incarcerated and Non-Incarcerated Students Who Identify as Women. The Prison Journal, 103(1), 3–22, 2022.

# Thank you

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