Second Chance Pell Program

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rWo6J9f_hC0

Program Overview

- Pell Grants were reinstated to incarcerated individuals in 2015
  - 2016, 2020, 2022 cohorts for Experimental Pilot
  - 9,000 students
  - 200 institutions
  - 7,000 credentials
- Active Sites Represent Partnership
  - Higher Education Institution
  - Correctional Facility

Approved Educational Programs and Sites

- Helena College – Montana State Prison, Certificate in Automotive Technology

- Great Falls College – Crossroads Correctional Facility, Office Management and Support

- Dawson Community College – Dawson Correctional Facility, Montana Women's Prison, Licensed Addiction Counseling

- MSU – Billings – Montana Women's Prison, Montana State Prison, Associates of

Mission-Driven

- Student Access
  - Nationally, 2% of incarcerated individuals have postsecondary degrees
- Completion/Attainment
- Workforce Development
  - By 2027, 70% of jobs will require postsecondary training and education beyond high school
  - 95% of incarcerated students will re-enter their communities

Next Steps for SCP and System Role

- Expansion of Pell in 2023 Award Year
- Changes to the FAFSA for 2023 Award Year
- Alignment/Audit of policies and processes that impact our incarcerated students
  - Student Fees
  - Enrollment processes
  - Cost structures
- Support Data Collection for quality metrics
- Partner with Corrections and Campuses to create community advisory groups

Helena College Second Chance Pell Program

Certificate of Applied Science in Automotive Technology =

Perfect Opportunity

1. Motivated Helena College instructor
2. Dedicated staff and instructors with Department of Corrections
3. Facilities at Montana State Prison
4. Campus support and belief in the program
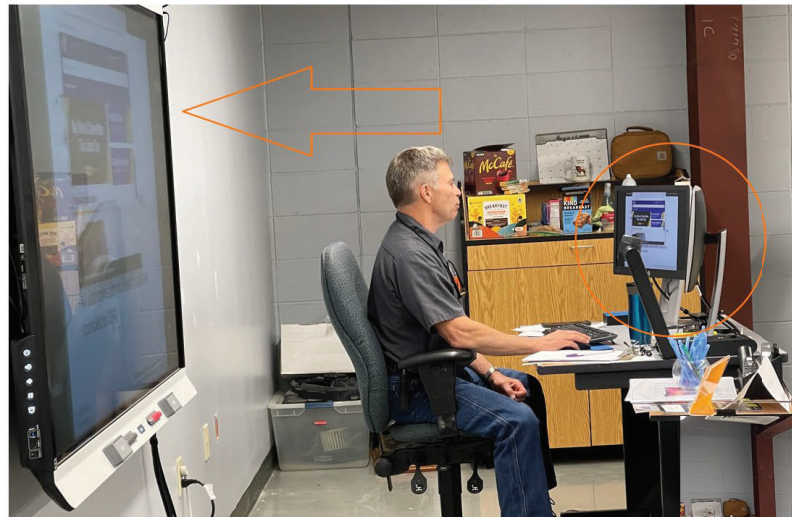
Our process

- Decision to apply to participate
  - Tour and conversations with DOC to determine fit
  - Automotive Advisory Board support

- Applied specifically for one program, limited participation
  - Students selected by DOC
  - Must be able to complete the one-year program prior to release
  - CAS provides skills for entering workforce and/or stacks to AAS

- MSP additional location for Helena College
  - Our students = same experience

Our instructional model

Attend automotive lecture classes with HC instructor through Smart technology and Lab work with DOC instructor in Deer Lodge

- No projector, Smartboard is computer
- Everyone joined through Teams
- Class recorded and posted in Moodle
- Students in MSP classroom on Jerry's screen
- Document camera for hands-on demos

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Our instructional model

- Faculty partnership
- General Education courses with existing DOC teachers – HC Adjuncts
  - Adjunct instructors working with HC Faculty
  - Allows for face-to-face instruction
- Tutoring support through Teams

Our support services

- Financial aid visit for FAFSA

- Application assistance

- New student orientation

- Advisor meetings through Teams

- Student wellness, career information, financial literacy over the year

- Graduation ceremony planned

Our plans

- Learn from this year - refine the process
- Continue with CAS in Automotive – 10 students/year
- 2023-2024 add CAS in Diesel Technology – 10 students/year
- 2024-2025 add CAS in Industrial Welding – 10 students/year
- Explore AA/AS options

- Recidivism Rates in Montana

- Equitable Access to Education

- Reduction of Cost and Crime

Source: Vera Institute of Justice

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF
CORRECTIONS

- Recidivism Rates in Montana

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UNDERSTANDING THE IMPACT

48%

participants in college-in-prison programs are 48% less likely to return to prison

2%

of people in prison were enrolled in higher education in 2019

$365.8M

the amount taxpayers could save per year by increasing educational opportunities in prison

Source: Vera Institute of Justice

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF
CORRECTIONS

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