

Docket Item:

Adults In Custody Second Chance Pell workgroup update (SB 234, 2021)

Summary:

Senate Bill 234 (2021) requires the Commission to “convene a group of stakeholders to conduct a study and develop recommendations on how to establish a coordinated, statewide approach to best serve adults currently in custody who are recently eligible to receive student grants under a federal program.”

A report containing the results and recommendations of the study is due to the Legislature by December 31, 2021.

The Workgroup held its first meeting on September 28, 2021. An update on the progress and timeline will be provided during the Commission meeting.

Material:

Attachment: Updated SB 234 work plan including Workgroup membership and report outline

Staff Recommendation:

For discussion and informational purposes only.



Senate Bill 234 Workgroup Charge and Plan

Updated September 29, 2021

Background and Charge

Senate Bill 234, passed during the 2021 Legislative Session, requires the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to “convene a group of stakeholders to conduct a study and develop recommendations on how to establish a coordinated, statewide approach to best serve adults currently in custody who are recently eligible to receive student grants under a federal program.” A report containing the results and recommendations of the study is due to the legislature by December 31, 2021.

Membership and Staffing

Role	Nominee
Community Colleges	<i>Holley Nelson, Chemeketa</i>
Universities	<i>Deb Arthur, Portland State</i>
Student – CC	<i>To be announced</i>
Student - OPU	<i>Robert Northman, Portland State</i>
Faculty – CC	Ellen Nunez, Portland Community College
Faculty - OPU	Shaul Cohen, University of Oregon
Prison Education Advocate	Debra Arthur, Oregon Coalition of Higher Education in Prison
Adult in Custody	Jamie Henderson Sarah Martin
Adult Formerly in Custody	Joshua Cain
Dept of Corrections	Nathaline Frener
Other: Community Corrections	Eric Guyer
Other: System-wide Knowledge	Jeremy Yrugen,
Other: Tribal	<i>To be announced</i>
Other: Social Justice Advocate	Tomas Sepulveda
Other: Commissioner	Greg Hamann
Other: DEI	Jeff Kenney

HECC Staffing: Donna Lewelling and Jennifer Markey

Legislative Staffing: Matthew Perrault

Timeline

Date	What	Who
June	Draft of Work plan, Timeline, etc.	HECC Staff
July	Finalize invitation to Stakeholders	HECC Staff
September	Stakeholder Group Engagement	First Meeting – set cadence, etc.
September – October	Stakeholder Engagement	Feedback from constituency groups using Workgroup Members as conduits of information.
December HECC Meeting	Final Review of Report	HECC Staff and Workgroup Members
December 31, 2021	Report to Legislature	HECC Staff on behalf of Workgroup Members

Guiding Goals and Purpose

The below graphic was updated during the Workgroups first meeting on September 29, 2021. It will serve as the framework for the legislative report.

Goal/Purpose

Make 2nd Chance Pell an effective educational resource for AICs by establishing market-driven state-wide programs of study that can be delivered in person and online by all postsecondary institutions and at all Corrections facilities, universally transferable between facilities and institutions so that educational progress (SAP) and program completion is universally achievable

- WHY?
- Education and Workforce
 - Prison education has also been shown to improve job prospects for those released – and approximately 85% of those incarcerated will someday be released.
 - Children of an incarcerated person who attended college are also more likely to attend college themselves.
 - Community
 - Participation in prison education programs reduces by 43% the rate at which people reoffend. The reduction in the likelihood to break the law means that for every dollar spent on prison education, taxpayers save \$5 in reincarceration costs while at the same time gaining productive community members.
 - Economic
 - It is estimated that as many as 8,000 Oregon “Adults in Custody” – or AICs – could be eligible for this Federal Financial Aid Program.
 - Assuming that these eligible AICs would enroll half-time, the total Federal financial support for this education could total something around \$24m per year.



