COMMUNITY AND
TECHNICAL COLLEGES
Washington State Board

CORRECTIONS EDUCATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

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Introduction

In an era where education stands as a beacon of hope and transformation, the collaborative efforts between the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) and the Department of Corrections (DOC) highlight a profound commitment to fostering opportunities for incarcerated students in Washington. This annual report delves into the partnership between SBCTC and DOC, which has made significant strides in providing educational services to justice-impacted students in Washington state.

By combining the expertise of the SBCTC and its colleges in delivering high-quality, accessible education with the DOC's mission to promote safety and successful reentry into society, this partnership seeks to break the cycle of incarceration through educational opportunities.

Through this partnership, SBCTC collaborates with community colleges to offer incarcerated students a robust educational experience. Programs range from Adult Basic Education (ABE) and High School Equivalency Preparation (GED®) to vocational training and postsecondary courses. These programs are designed to not only enhance achievement, but instill a sense of hope and possibility, paving the way for a more constructive and fulfilling future.

In this report, you will find a comprehensive overview of enrollments, student accomplishments, staffing, and funding for fiscal year 2024. This report will delve into key statistics that illustrate enrollment trends, and highlight significant achievements by our students, showcasing their success. Additionally, this report will provide an in-depth look at our staffing levels and the allocation of resources, ensuring transparency and accountability in our operations.

This report also explores our IT initiatives, detailing advancements in technology that enhance learning and streamline administrative processes. Our robust corrections education navigator program will also be highlighted, emphasizing its vital role in supporting incarcerated individuals on their educational journeys.

To provide a broader perspective, this report includes high-level overviews of our goals and accomplishments from fiscal year 2024. This report serves not only as a snapshot of our status, but as a roadmap for future initiatives and growth. Data in this report is drawn from SBCTC's data warehouse, which is integrated with the common management information system used by all 34 community and technical colleges across the state.

In fiscal year 2024, SBCTC proudly partnered with the following colleges to provide education services to incarcerated students: Centralia College, Clark College, Edmonds College, Grays Harbor College, Peninsula College, Spokane Community College, Tacoma Community College, and Walla Walla Community College. These partnerships have been vital in supporting student success, providing essential resources, and opportunities that empower students.

Figure 1 on the following page includes a detailed map of all college partnerships and the facilities in which they operate.

Figure 1: Colleges and the correctional institutions they serve.

1 Centralia College
- Cedar Creek Corrections Center
- Washington Corrections Center

2 Clark College
- Larch Corrections Center (LCC)*

3 Edmonds College
- Monroe Correctional Complex (MCC)

4 Grays Harbor College
- Stafford Creek Corrections Center (SCCC)

5 Peninsula College
- Clallam Bay Corrections Center (CBCC)
- Olympic Corrections Center (OCC)

6 Spokane Community College
- Airway Heights Corrections Center (AHCC)

7 Tacoma Community College
- Mission Creek Corrections Center for Women (MCCCW)
- Washington Corrections Center for Women (WCCW)

8 Walla Walla Community College
- Coyote Ridge Corrections Center (CRCC)
- Washington State Penitentiary (WSP)

* Larch Corrections Center closed in October 2023/FY24

Advancing Education in Correctional Facilities: Overview

This section will review our collaborative goals with the Department of Corrections, outline our program offerings, and detail the student services we provide. Additionally, it will include a comprehensive summary of our IT initiatives, and an in-depth chart illustrating our funding structure.

Collaborative objectives: SBCTC & DOC shared goals

In addition to enrollment and completion targets, the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges and the Department of Corrections jointly focused on the following areas for program development in fiscal year 2024:

1. Offer workforce programs that are high-wage/high-demand, aligned to a career pathway, connected to apprenticeships where applicable, and achieve completion targets.

2. Increase the number of students obtaining their high school credential prior to release, to include collaboration on implementation of forthcoming special education policies, procedures, and accommodations for students where applicable.

3. Align adult basic education, vocational, and academic programming across 11 prisons, where applicable, to increase transferability and student completion.

4. Develop a process for Federal Pell Grant reinstatement, to be implemented in fiscal year 2024, including assisting incarcerated persons participating in state-funded postsecondary and vocational education to access federal and state financial aid.

5. Develop a process for transferability of vocational and academic degree and certificate programs to four-year post-secondary degrees.

6. Build IT infrastructure that will allow education programs to deliver flipped classroom and web-enhanced instruction, while exploring secured internet access for education classrooms. A flipped classroom reverses traditional teaching methods by having students learn lecture-oriented content outside the classroom, online. Instructors then use classroom time to further explain difficult concepts, help students work through challenges, and engage students in exercises, projects, discussions or other in-person, interactive activities.

7. Create a seamless pathway from prison to postsecondary education with points of contact on community and technical college main campuses, crosswalks for workforce programs, and connections with community-based programs.

Programs offered

Basic Education for Adults

Our Basic Education for Adults programs play a vital role in equipping individuals in Department of Corrections facilities with essential academic skills to succeed. These programs include High School Equivalency Preparation (GED®), English Language Acquisition (ELA), High School+ (HS+), and pre-college preparatory courses. SBCTC publishes an annual course catalog, which details course offerings at each of the facilities. Below is a high-level overview of our offerings.

- **High School Equivalency Preparation (GED®) :** This program targets individuals who have not yet earned a high school diploma or equivalency certificate. To obtain a GED® certificate, students must pass a comprehensive test battery covering Reasoning Through Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, and Mathematical Reasoning.

- **High School+ (HS+):** This competency-based diploma program enables students to earn a high school diploma through community and technical colleges. Students demonstrate competencies in reading, writing, math, science, history, government, occupational studies, and digital literacy. This comprehensive approach aligns with adult learning styles and includes competency-based assessments that demonstrate the academic, career, and personal competencies needed in further education and employment.

- **English Language Acquistion (ELA):** These courses support non-native English speakers in developing proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. ELA programs are funded at all 11 facilities.

- **Pre-college courses:** These courses are designed for individuals who score below the college level on standardized assessments, focusing on enhancing reading comprehension, writing, and math skills to prepare students for further academic pursuits. For students who have completed their high school credential but are not yet ready for college-level coursework, pre-college courses offer critical preparation to meet the demands of higher education.

Workforce Education Programs

Workforce education programs offer specialized training in professional-technical fields, equipping students with the skills necessary for meaningful employment in their communities. Our workforce programs adhere to the same rigorous standards as the campus programs, ensuring high-quality instruction across the board. Students who successfully complete are awarded college certificates and degrees that enhance career prospects. These programs focus on vocational training in areas such as construction, HVAC, computer technology, and more. Our programs are tailored to meet labor market demands by providing incarcerated students with hands-on experience and education. Several of our programs use the highly effective Integrated Basic Education and Skill Training (I-BEST) model. I-BEST seamlessly integrates basic education with workforce training, providing critical support for students with foundational skill gaps and accelerating their progress toward both academic and career goals.

Academic programs

The passage of [HB 1044](#) in 2022 continues to enhance our academic offerings by authorizing the use of state funding for postsecondary education. Academic programs in prison play a crucial role in transforming lives by expanding higher education opportunities. These programs foster critical thinking, personal growth, and a sense of achievement and goal setting. They equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in a wide range of fields. Our academic programs are structured educational pathways designed to provide students with comprehensive knowledge and skills in specific fields of study. These programs encompass a range of disciplines, including arts, sciences, humanities, and professional studies, culminating in a degree or certificate. Academic programs involve a combination of coursework, hands-on experience, and research opportunities, enabling students to develop critical thinking. Through these programs, students gain the expertise needed to navigate an increasingly complex world and contribute meaningfully to their communities.

Certificates

For several years, colleges have been gradually shifting their focus from short-term certificates of fewer than 20 credits to certificates that range from 20-44 credits. Research from SBCTC and recent legislative initiatives indicate that longer-term certificates lead to better job opportunities and higher wage positions.

These longer certificates often encompass more comprehensive training that equips students with advanced skills and knowledge for greater employability and career-advancement potential. By completing these programs, students can earn credentials that are recognized by employers, and this shift aims to better align educational offerings with labor market demands and ensure that students gain the skills necessary for long-term success.

Pre-apprenticeship programs

Pre-apprenticeship programs prepare individuals for entry into formal apprenticeship training. These programs provide foundational skills and knowledge related to specific trades, often including hands-on experience, safety training, and instruction in essential tools and techniques. By completing a pre-apprenticeship program, students enhance their employability and readiness for apprenticeship opportunities, positioning themselves for successful careers in various skilled trades.

SBCTC continues to collaborate with various organizations, including the Department of Corrections; Washington State Correctional Industries; the Apprenticeship and Non-Traditional Employment for Women program; and numerous local trade unions and apprenticeship organizations to enhance apprenticeship opportunities for our students.

One notable initiative is the Construction Trades Pre-Apprenticeship (CTAP) program, which has gained recognition from the Washington State Apprenticeship and Training Council, part of the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries. This program not only equips participants with essential skills, but also opens pathways to gainful employment in the construction sector.

Our partnerships have established memorandums of understanding with key organizations, including the Carpenters-Employers Apprenticeship & Training Trust Fund, Cement Masons & Plasterers Training Centers of Washington, the Pacific Northwest Ironworkers Training Center and the Employer-Training Partnerships Committee.

Figure 2: Workforce education programs by facility FY24

Degree and Certificate Programs by Facility

1 Centralia College
   ■ Cedar Creek Corrections Center
     · Associate of Arts
     · Construction Trades
       Pre-Apprenticeship
     · Drywall, Roofing and Siding
     · Horticulture
   ■ Washington Corrections Center
     · Associate of Arts
     · Construction Trades
       Pre-Apprenticeship

2 Clark College
   ■ Larch Corrections Center (LCC)
     · Business Management

3 Edmonds College
   ■ Monroe Correctional Complex (MCC)
     · Business Management
     · Construction Trades
       Pre-Apprenticeship
     · Computer Programming

4 Grays Harbor College
   ■ Stafford Creek Corrections Center
     (SCCC)
     · Associate of Arts-Direct Transfer
       Agreement
     · Business Management
     · Construction Trades
       Pre-Apprenticeship
     · Drywall, Roofing and Siding
     · Human Services
     · Welding

5 Peninsula College
   ■ Clallam Bay Corrections Center
     (CBCC)
     · Business Management
     · Computer Programming
     · Licensed Trades Pre-Apprenticeship
     · Pastry and Specialty Baking
   ■ Olympic Corrections Center (OCC)
     · Construction Trades
       Pre-Apprenticeship

6 Spokane Community College
   ■ Airway Heights Corrections Center
     (AHCC)
     · Business Management
     · CNC Machining
     · Carpentry
     · Construction Trades
       Pre-Apprenticeship
     · Technical Design
     · Upholstery

7 Tacoma Community College
   ■ Mission Creek Corrections Center
     for Women (MCCCW)
     · Business Management
   ■ Washington Corrections Center
     for Women (WCCW)
     · Business Management
     · Computer Programming
     · Horticulture
     · Technical Design

8 Walla Walla Community College
   ■ Coyote Ridge Corrections Center
     (CRCC)
     · Associate of Arts-Direct Transer
       Agreement
     · Automotive Repair (I-BEST)
     · Business Administration
     · Business Management
     · Carpentry (I-BEST)
     · Digital Design
     · Heating, Ventilation and
       Air Conditioning
     · Human and Social Services
     · Welding
   ■ Washington State Penitentiary (WSP)
     · Autobody Technology and Collision
       Repair
     · Business Administration
     · Business Management
     · Construction Trades
       Pre-Apprenticeship
     · CNC Machining
     · Diesel Repair
     · Digital Design
     · Heating, Ventilation, Air
       Conditioning and Refrigeration
     · Welding

Student Services

Education Navigator Cadre

The **Corrections Education Navigator Cadre** continues to provide critical, coordinated services that begin during incarceration and extend through post-release, ensuring justice-involved individuals have access to education and workforce development opportunities. Through close collaboration between facility-based navigators (located within correction institutions) and community-based education navigators (based at colleges), the program has expanded access to education, aligned vocational programs with workforce demands, and improved educational continuity for justice-impacted individuals.

The Corrections Education Navigator Cadre was prominently featured in the [U.S. Department of Education Beyond the Box report](#) as one of three exemplary models of postsecondary education support for justice-impacted individuals. This recognition underscores the cadre's innovative approach to addressing the unique challenges faced by justice-involved individuals in their pursuit of higher education.

Facility-based college education navigators initiate the reentry process at two primary reception centers: The Washington Corrections Center and the Washington Corrections Center for Women. These educational professionals work with students to determine the appropriate entry point for each student within the educational system. Elements such as transcript requests, evaluations of financial aid eligibility, and a review of employment history all contribute to the foundation of each student's education plan. As individuals are transferred to different "parent" facilities or experience a change in custody level, the facility-based college education navigators remain dedicated to creating a well-guided pathway for continued prison education and ensuring a smooth transition from incarceration to postsecondary education upon community reentry. The colleges that had facility-based navigators located in 11 prisons in fiscal year 2024 were: Spokane Community College, Centralia College, Clark College, Edmonds College, Grays Harbor College, Peninsula College, Tacoma Community College, and Walla Walla Community College.

Community-based college education navigators are a vital part of transition from prison to community postsecondary education. Contracts are provided to colleges by identifying the counties with the highest population of individuals released from prison. As the transfer of students releasing throughout the state of Washington has increased, the need for on-campus educational services has increased. SBCTC contracts with colleges in King, Pierce, Snohomish, Clark, Thurston, Skagit, Spokane, Lewis, Kitsap, Yakima, and Franklin counties to provide education supports to individuals releasing. Although not every community or technical college has a Department of Corrections-funded education navigator on site, the 14 community campus education navigators support post-incarcerated individuals throughout Washington state indifferent to campus location.

By working with community and technical colleges, the Department of Correction's reentry services, and workforce programs, the navigator team has built comprehensive support systems that bridge the transition from prison to community life. This collaboration connects justice-involved individuals with high-wage, high-demand career pathways. The programs' ongoing focus on expanding educational opportunities aligned with workforce needs has fostered long-term success for individuals post-release, reinforcing the vital role of education in reducing recidivism and promoting successful reintegration.

Key achievements in fiscal year 2024 include the successful alignment of education programs across 11 correctional facilities, significantly improving the transferability of credits, and increasing completion rates. Navigators also facilitated access to postsecondary education by assisting incarcerated individuals with financial aid applications, including helping resolve student loan defaults to eliminate barriers to funding. Their efforts have ensured the seamless transfer of vocational and academic credits to four-year institutions, supporting long-term educational goals beyond incarceration.

Navigators attend ongoing professional development including monthly reoccurring meetings along with conferences and webinars provided by organizations across the nation. These coordinated efforts underscore the essential role of the navigator program in advancing education and workforce alignment for justice-involved individuals, paving the way for continued success and community reintegration.

Technology and IT

Overview

The integration of educational technology in correctional education is essential for promoting digital equity between incarcerated students and traditional college campus learners. With support from the SBCTC, the community colleges operating within the 11 adult Department of Corrections (DOC) facilities provide comprehensive IT services. This includes managing network serves, classroom computers, student laptops, and all-technology related devices used for educational purposes or assessments.

Learning management system and curricula

College students engaged in online learning usually rely on a secure learning management system that enables them to access, participate in, and manage their courses effectively. In contrast, incarcerated students often face significant barriers, including limited or no internet access. To address this challenge, the Open Prison Education Project, developed by SBCTC, has introduced offline functionalities within the Canvas learning management system used by Washington's community and technical colleges. These enhancements empower incarcerated students to study offline directly within their living units, facilitating their educational opportunities despite the constraints of their environment.

SBCTC staff also converted online curriculum to offline curriculum according to strict security protocols and high educational standards. Students have access to academic and professional-technical courses as well as adult basic education courses that teach basic reading, writing and math skills.

The Open Prison Education Project uses open-source materials, which are free, copyright-cleared resources that can be used and reused at no-cost.

Open Prison Education Platform

Incarcerated students often face significant barriers in accessing learning resources, such as computers and internet connectivity. To address these challenges, SBCTC has developed the Open Prison Education Platform, which has been adopted by at least five other states. This platform features:

- A prison-ready learning management system (open-source Canvas).

- Open-source learning materials.

- Secure laptop software, enabling students to study offline.

Laptop security and infrastructure

The Open Prison Education Platform includes security software that has successfully detected and prevented attempted breaches on educational laptops. The SBCTC IT team collaborates closely with the DOC's Information Technology Division, facilitating swift detection and response to potential security issues.

With the deployment of the Off State Network across all facilities (described below), SBCTC IT staff have worked diligently to create laptop binaries that enhance connectivity and security for educational laptops. This integration enables education laptops to access network resources securely in compliance with DOC protocols.

The "Off State Network" initiative

The Off State Network (OSN) project aims to provide a secured internet environment for all 11 facilities, enabling access to educational resources. Faculty and staff can include "online" resources in their classrooms by sending links through the "whitelist" approval process for security review. Once approved, students can now access this resource in the secured internet environment. Key features of the OSN include:

- An adult basic education application known as Boardworks.

- A corrections specific version of the JSTOR library database.

- Access to 37 whitelisted websites for student use.

- Online GED® testing services at five of the 11 facilities.

SBCTC's technology team continues to work with the Department of Corrections on the OSN secured internet project. The network has now been deployed to all 11 facilities. Corrections Education teams and SBCTC IT staff have been working to provide resources and get services up and running on the OSN.

Laying the groundwork for Off State Network migrations

SBCTC's technology team has been working on updating systems such as the Open Prison Education Platform (OPE) to make them compatible with the Off State Network (OSN). To accomplish this, the team has updated the software code to be compatible with DOC's active directory system. This allows students to leverage the same account for their education laptops and OSN computers. Additionally, the OPE system can be connected to the OSN network allowing students to leverage the OSN resources while engaging with the OPE systems.

We have successfully tested and created documentation for sites to leverage as they go through the migration process, allowing them to set up the new systems on the OSN as the sites start their migration. Documentation and processes for IT staff to successfully work on the OSN have also been created to help make the support process quicker and lessen impacts to students.

All this work has led to the first class fully running on the OSN. In spring of 2024, the Technical Design Program at the Washington Corrections Center for Women was completely run on OSN joined computers. This was beneficial to education as we could identify areas for improvement while accomplishing a huge step toward fully using OSN for educational purposes.

Ongoing collaboration

In February 2024, a national incident involving the Securebook 5 laptops prompted a swift response from SBCTC and DOC staff. Following a risk assessment, it was determined that all Securebook 5 laptops would be replaced with the newer Securebook 6 models, which do not have the basic input/output system (BIOS) vulnerability previously seen in the Securebook 5s. Although this transition was disruptive to educational programming, causing our instructors to pivot curriculum two weeks before the end of the quarter, it has ultimately provided students with more advanced technology.

Weekly IT meetings and Microsoft Teams space

SBCTC staff continue to facilitate weekly IT meetings to foster collaboration among SBCTC and local site leadership, addressing challenges and opportunities. These meetings facilitate the development of tools, strategies, and policies to benefit all corrections education sites.

Additionally, a dedicated Microsoft Teams space has been established for corrections education teams. This platform serves as a central repository for:

- Policy and procedure documentation.

- Resource sharing.

- How-to articles.

The chat feature is frequently used for real-time collaboration between college education IT and SBCTC IT, enhancing support and collaboration across the community and technical college system.

Funding framework

The State Board for Community and Technical Colleges and the Department of Corrections enter into an annual interagency agreement that outlines expectations for correctional education programs. Both agencies are committed to fostering a performance-based system that not only enhances educational opportunity, but also delivers a significant return on investment for taxpayers. The success of SBCTC and the college is primarily measured by their ability to meet enrollment and completion targets.

Funding is allocated to the colleges based on full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment goals. Additionally, SBCTC receives federal Perkins funds from the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board. The allocation of FTE funding to colleges, along with the administrative allocation to SBCTC for managing the interagency agreement and providing IT support, is detailed in Table 1.

FTE allocation

Table 1: Interagency agreement contract amounts and FTEs by facility FY24

College	Location	Enrollment Target	Contract Amount	Percent
Spokane	Airway Heights	360	2,249,513	11%
Peninsula	Clallam Bay	183	1,185,020	6%
Centralia	Cedar Creek	71	506,313	2%
Walla Walla	Coyote Ridge	661	3,827,248	19%
Clark	Larch	5	223,020	1%
Edmonds	Monroe	275	1,905,987	9.2%
Tacoma	Mission Creek	37	216,836	1%
Peninsula	Olympic	38	213,417	1%
Grays Harbor	Stafford Creek	323	2,078,058	10%
Centralia	WA Corrections	130	990,172	5%
Tacoma	WA Corrections for Women	201	1,290,981	6%
Walla Walla	WA State Penitentiary	729	4,619,503	22%
Renton	Navigator	--	85,696	0.4%
Seattle Central	Navigator	--	85,696	0.4%
South Seattle	Navigator	--	85,696	0.4%
Skagit	Navigator	_	85,696	0.4%
TESC	Navigator	_	85,696	0.4%
Columbia Basin	Navigator	_	85,696	0.4%
Olympic	Navigator	_	85,696	0.4%
Yakima	Navigator	_	85,696	0.4%
SBCTC	Administration	--	287,280	1.4%
SBCTC	Technology Support	_	255,922	1.2%

College	Location	Enrollment Target	Contract Amount	Percent
TOTAL		3,013	20,534,838	100%

Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act funding

The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act provides vital funding to enhance and improve career and technical education (CTE) programs across the United States. The funding helps institutions upgrade facilities, purchase equipment, and develop curricula that align with current industry standards. The Washington Training and Education Coordinating Board awards one-half of 1% to SBCTC to award for corrections education programs. Table 3 provides an overview of the funding breakdown for fiscal year 2024.

Table 3: Perkins funding FY24

College	Award	Purchased
Centralia	$ 23,231	Purchasing equipment and power tools for Construction Trades Apprenticeship program (CTAP) Professional Development for CTAP instructors
Edmonds	$ 24,500	CTAP Instruction and lab tool replacement, building and instructor materials Textbooks: BUS&101, MGMT 106, and computer fundamentals
Peninsula	$ 8,500	Materials for LTAP program Hand tools for CTAP program
Spokane	$41,000	Updating Computers (25) Field evaluation of CNC Mills/Lathes HVAC Equipment
Walla Walla	$ 65,468	Professional Development for instructors in the following areas: Collision Repair and Diesel Tech, Auto mechanics, Welding, CTAP, CNC, Digital Design, Carpentry and HVAC Equipment: Training furnaces, grinders, HVAC simulators, Drills/Impact Drivers, battery packs Books: Small Business entrepreneurship program
Total	$ 162,699	

Visionary Initiatives

Focus on basic skills

Obtaining a high school credential is a critical milestone for individuals who are justice-impacted, as it lays the foundation for further educational and employment opportunities. According to a report by the Vera Institute of Justice, individuals with a high school diploma are 37% less likely to return to prison compared to individuals without a high school diploma.

In addition, employment data from the U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics also reveals that justice-impacted individuals with a high school diploma earn, on average, 22% more annually than those without. A high school diploma or equivalent serves as a crucial steppingstone to success.

Recognizing the critical importance of a high school diploma or equivalent, Washington state law mandates that individuals entering Department of Corrections custody without a high school credential be prioritized for educational services. However, this goal has been hindered by complex factors over the past few years, with the COVID-19 pandemic significantly impacting students' success. Some additional considerations include sentences that are too short for incarcerated individuals to complete a high school credential, medical and mental health issues impacting full participation, and more. Additionally, priority programming set by the Department of Corrections or a court can shift focus away from these services. Addressing these challenges is crucial to ensuring that all individuals can achieve their high school credentials and improve their chances for successful reintegration.

Despite these challenges, SBCTC and DOC partnered to shift focus to basic skills initiatives in fiscal year 2024 to address instances of individuals releasing from prison without obtaining their high school credentials. SBCTC receives a monthly education assistance report from the Department of Corrections. This report compiles a list of all individuals set to be released from the Department of Corrections in the next two years, along with information about their high school completion status. Corrections education deans and directors analyze the list to devise personalized solutions to meet student needs.

For students not able to complete prior to release, corrections education navigators work closely to set them up with a college campus navigator who can support them in completion on campus.

The following strategies were implemented in fiscal year 2024 to address high school credential completion:

- Education navigators collaborated with Department of Corrections navigators to help students who could not complete a high school credential before releasing. This included setting up admissions, enrollment, and funding opportunities for the student to attend class in the community.

- Colleges ensured all basic skill sections met a minimum of 12 hours per week.

- Colleges aimed to offer an evening and/or weekend section of basic skills.

- Colleges monitored waitlists biweekly.

- Colleges enrolled students with a release date of less than 1.5 years as the highest priority.

- Colleges offered a minimum once-a-week GED® testing session.

- Colleges increased the number of students issued laptops for HS+ programming.

- In coordination with local facilities, colleges created schedules and instructional plans to serve individuals in intensive management units (IMUs).

- Colleges followed DOC prioritization enrollment for students.

These strategies resulted in an increase of high school credential obtainment from fiscal year 2023 of 570 to fiscal year 2024 of 707. SBCTC and its colleges will continue to monitor and focus strategies to improve obtainment of high school credentials in all facilities in fiscal year 2025.

Fiscal Year 2024 At-a-Glance

A high-level overview of achievements during fiscal year 2024 are highlighted below.

- **Enrollment and achievement:**

  - Washington community colleges enrolled 5,318 incarcerated individuals, with 458 students earning high school diplomas through the HS+ program, marking a 182% increase from the previous fiscal year.

  - 536 vocational certificates were awarded.

  - 82 associate degrees were earned.

- **GED® testing:** A total of 249 GED® credentials were earned. Trends in recent years reflect students leaning towards HS+ programs to earn their credentials over GED® testing.

- **Full-time equivalent students:** Colleges worked with 2,536 out of 3,013 contracted targets of full-time equivalent students (FTEs) achieving an 84% success rate and a 14% increase from the previous year.

- **Reentry support:** Between college and prison-based navigators, more than 10,000 students received vital education and reentry support tailored for justice-impacted students.

- **Off-State Network**: All sites moved toward the Off-State Network.

- Second Chance Pell programs:

  - Walla Walla Community College and Centralia College continued to offer Second Chance Pell classes. Walla Walla provided a Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) in Applied Management and Entrepreneurship while Centralia College offered a direct transfer associate degree.

  - SBCTC alongside staff from the Second Chance Pell colleges attended the Vera Institute of Justice Sixth Annual Convening to highlight the work of the student voice council from Walla Walla Community College, which was highlighted as an exemplar of incorporating student voices in initiatives.

- o SBCTC and partnering colleges successfully completed the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities approval process as a second step in obtaining Prison Education Program (PEP) approval from the U.S. Department of Education.

- **Legislative support during the 2024 session:**

  - o SBCTC supported [SSB 5953](#), which was titled "Concerning financial aid grants for incarcerated students." This landmark bill provides financial aid grants for incarcerated students. Alongside the passing of this bill, the colleges were awarded funding to provide specialized financial aid and academic advising support to the incarcerated students.

  - o SBCTC also supported [HB 2084](#), which was titled "Establishing an oversight committee to improve construction-related training and pathways to state registered apprenticeships in state correctional facilities."

- **Transition support**: Following the closure of Larch Corrections Center in October 2023, Clark College staff worked diligently to ensure students transferred smoothly to other facilities.

- **Professional development:** SBCTC participated in a pilot group with the Department of Education focused on implementing Integrated Education and Training (IET) in corrections. Through this pilot, SBCTC has been working to increase I-BEST offerings inside correctional facilities to increase student access to programming.

- **Accessibility:** Efforts continue to address ADA compliance and student access. All colleges have developed processes to ensure students can request access for accommodation services.

- **Technology:** In winter 2024, a corrections education laptop vendor experienced a security breach that resulted in the recall of all laptops in the correctional facilities. State Board staff, alongside DOC and college staff, worked to collect all recalled laptops. SBCTC worked to replace laptops with Securebook 6 to minimize impact to student learning.

Transitions in Fiscal Year 2024

In fiscal year 2024, the Department of Corrections and Tacoma Community College decided to not renew their longstanding contract for educational services for the upcoming fiscal year. This decision marked the conclusion of over 30 years of dedicated service by Tacoma Community College, during which they made significant contributions to the educational development of incarcerated individuals at Washington Corrections Center for Women and Mission Creek Corrections Center for Women, fostering a supportive learning environment that has transformed countless students.

In response to this transition, the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) proactively initiated a Request for Proposals (RFP) to identify other qualified colleges interested in assuming the educational responsibilities at the two women's correctional facilities.

After a comprehensive review process, Olympic College was awarded the contract to provide these essential educational services beginning July 1, 2024 (fiscal year 2025). SBCTC is confident that Olympic College will continue the legacy of excellence established by Tacoma Community College, offering robust curriculum designed to empower students through skill development and vocational training.

As we move forward, SBCTC will work collaboratively with Olympic College to provide full support, facilitating a transition and ongoing collaboration to meet the needs of our corrections education students.

Performance Measures and Accountability in Fiscal Year 2024

SBCTC measures college success through meeting FTE targets set forth in the interagency agreement and student attainment of academic and workforce credentials. SBCTC also takes into consideration impacts on FTEs due to constraints outside of the college's control.

In fiscal year 2024, Washington colleges enrolled 5,318 incarcerated individuals. Colleges were funded to serve 3,013 FTEs[1] and reached 2,536 of their contracted targets. While colleges were still below expected targets, FTEs increased by 15% between fiscal year 2023 and fiscal year 2024, demonstrating dedicated effort from SBCTC and the colleges to meeting FTE targets. FTE obtainments are impacted by faculty vacancies, facility lockdowns, conflicting programming options, and more. Facility targets and their enrollment outcomes are summarized in table 2.

Table 2: FY24 FTEs and headcount

Location	FTE Target	FTE Total	% Total FTE	Student Headcount	% Total Student Headcount
Airway Heights	260	389	89%	676	12%
Clallam Bay	185	61	32%	186	3%
Cedar Creek	71	83	116%	210	4%
Coyote Ridge	661	613	92%	1,286	23%
Larch	5	2	40%	17	.3%
Monroe	275	166	60%	434	8%
Mission Creek	37	28	75%	115	2%

[1] Full-time equivalent students (FTEs) is a measure of college effort to deliver instruction. One FTE is equal to 45 credits of annual enrollment or 15 credits of quarterly enrollment. Colleges offer between 10-15 hours per credit depending on the type of course (basic education, vocational, academic or offender change).

Location	FTE Target	FTE Total	% Total FTE	Student Headcount	% Total Student Headcount
Olympic	38	17	44%	68	1%
Stafford Creek	323	273	84%	795	14%
WA Corrections	130	107	82%	366	6%
WA Corrections for Women	201	156	78%	381	7%
WA State Penitentiary	729	640	88%	1,112	20%
Total	3,013	2,536	84%	5,568	100%
Unduplicated System Total Headcount				5,318	

Table 4 summarizes academic and workforce credential outcomes for fiscal year 2022 through fiscal year 2024. For more information about demographics, headcounts, FTEs and faculty totals, please see appendices A, B, and C.

Table 4: Academic and workforce outcomes

Award Type	FY24	FY23	FY22
High School Equivalency (GED®)*	249	219	181
High school diplomas (HS+)	458	351	158
Vocational certificates	536	511	381
Vocational certificate, 45-89 credits	159	135	127
Vocational certificate, 20-44 credits	253	206	95
Vocational certificate, 1-19 credits	114	170	159
Associate degree	82	60	80

In fiscal year 2024, incarcerated students earned 249 GED® credentials. During the duration of FY24, multiple sites have been working to move their testing to be on the OSN (Off-State Network). By fiscal year 2025, colleges will run testing entirely on this network. GED® testing is regularly impacted by software updates in the offline environment, so moving to the OSN will significantly increase testing availability for students in fiscal year 2025. Table 5 provides a detailed summary of tests passed by fiscal year 2024 by each facility.

Table 5: GED® tests passed

Location	FY23 Test takers	FY23 Tests taken	FY23 Tests passed	FY23 GED® earned	FY24 Test takers	FY24 Tests taken	FY24 Tests passed	FY24 GED® earned
Airway Heights	72	184	157	33	55	128	99	20
Clallam Bay	10	12	6	0	1	1	0	0
Cedar Creek	59	176	128	21	53	175	96	18
Coyote Ridge	217	564	433	63	247	814	513	90
Larch	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Monroe	18	31	26	7	17	41	34	5
Mission Creek	29	75	50	7	38	77	55	10
Olympic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stafford Creek	67	124	87	11	93	200	112	15
WA Corrections	115	276	224	30	121	329	290	36
WA Corrections for Women	28	58	54	1	83	250	175	26
WA State Penitentiary	170	420	307	46	154	317	168	26
Total	785	1,920	1,472	219	889	2,332	1,542	246

Source: GEDTS, GED® Manager

Outcomes for Education Programs by Facility

Table 7: Degree and certificate completions

College	Program	CIP	Certificate Type	Awarded
Centralia	Advanced High School Compl	32.0208	Advanced High School Compl	7
	Drywall Installation	46.0404	Certificate, 1-19 credits	22
	Roofer	46.0410	Certificate, 1-19 credits	18
	Building/Home/Construction	46.0403	Certificate, 1-19 credits	18

College	Program	CIP	Certificate Type	Awarded
	Construction Trades Pre-Apprenticeship Program- CTAP	46.0415	Certificate, 20-44	79
Clark	Advanced High School Compl	32.0208	Advanced High School Compl	3
Edmonds	Advanced High School Compl	32.0208	Advanced High School Compl	76
	Business Admin & Mgmt	52.0201	Certificate, 1-19 credits	0
	Web Page, Digital/Multimedia	11.0801	Certificate, 1-19 credits	2
	Office Mgmt & Supervision	52.0204	Certificate, 1-19 credits	0
	Business Admin & Mgmt	52.0201	Certificate, 20-44 credits	0
	Web/Multimedia Mgmt/Webmst	11.1004	Certificate, 20-44 credits	2
	Retail Management	52.0212	Certificate, 20-44 credits	0
	Construction Trades Pre-Apprenticeship Program- CTAP	46.0415	Certificate, 20-44 credits	0
	Marketing/Marketing Management	52.0212	Certificate, 20-44 credits	0
	Entrepreneurship	52.0701	Certificate, 45-90 credits	14
	Business Admin & Mgmt	52.0201	Workforce Degree	15
Grays Harbor	Advanced High School Compl	32.0208	Advanced High School Compl	103
	Construction Engineering Tech	15.1001	Certificate 20-44 credits	39
	Welding Tech	48.0508	Certificate, 45-89 credits	6
	Business Admin & Mgmt	52.0201	Workforce Degree	11
	Mental and Social Health Services	51.1599	Workforce Degree	0
Peninsula	Advanced High School Compl	32.0208	Advanced High School Compl	12
	Accounting Tech & Bookkpg	52.0320	Certificate, 1-19 credits	0
	Accounting Tech & Bookkpg	52.0302	Certificate, 20-44 credits	12
	Baking and Pastry Arts	12.0501	Certificate, 20-44 Credits	12
	Building Construction Technology	46.0415	Certificate, 20-44 credits	3
	Computer Programming	11.0201	Certificate, 20-44 credits	2
	Plumbing Technology/Plumber	46.0503	Certificate, 20-44 credits	13
Spokane	Advanced High School Compl	32.0208	Advanced High School Compl	112
	Carpentry	46.0201	Certificate 1-19 Credits	0
	Business Admin & Mgmt	52.0201	Certificate, 45-90 credits	5
	CAD Draft/Design Tech	15.1302	Certificate, 45-90 credits	0

College	Program	CIP	Certificate Type	Awarded
	Carpentry	46.0201	Certificate, 45-90 credits	17
	Plastics Engineer Tech	15.0607	Certificate, 45-90 credits	1
Tacoma	Advanced High School Compl	32.0208	Advanced High School Compl	2
	Accounting Tech & Bookkpg	52.0302	Certificate, 1-19 credits	12
	Retailing & Retail Ops	52.1803	Certificate, 1-19 credits	19
	Horticulture Ops, Genl	01.0601	Certificate, 1-19 credits	23
	Retailing & Retail Ops	52.1803	Certificate, 20-44 credits	16
	Entrepreneurship	52.0701	Certificate, 20-44 credits	7
	Web Page, Digital multimedia	11.0801	Certificate, 20-44 Credits	7
	Horticulture Ops, Genl	01.0601	Certificate, 45-90 credits	5
	Drafting and Design Technology	15.1301	Certificate, 45-90 credits	1
	Retailing & Retail Ops	52.1803	Certificate, 45-90 credits	16
	Business Administration	52.0201	Workforce Degree	4
Walla Walla	Advanced High School Compl	32.0208	Advanced High School Compl	143
	Auto body/Collision & Repair	47.0603	Certificate, 20-44 credits	1
	Building Construction Technology	46.0415	Certificate, 20-44 credits	35
	Diesel Mechanics Tech	47.0605	Certificate, 20-44 credits	0
	Heating, Air Conditioning, Ven	47.0201	Certificate, 20-44 credits	25
	Agricultural Mechanization, Ge	01.0201	Certificate, 45-90 credits	1
	Auto Mechanics	47.0604	Certificate, 45-90 credits	7
	Business Admin & Mgmt	52.0201	Certificate, 45-90 credits	29
	Carpentry	46.0201	Certificate, 45-90 credits	0
	Auto body/Collision & Repair	47.0603	Certificate, 45-90 credits	1
	Diesel Mechanics Tech	47.0605	Certificate, 45-90 credits	3
	Digital Media: Web Media	11.0801	Certificate, 45-90 credits	9
	Heat/AC/Vent/Refrig Maint	47.0201	Certificate, 45-90 credits	19
	Web/Multimedia Mgmt	11.1004	Certificate, 45-90	1
	Welding Tech	48.0508	Certificate, 45-90 credits	24
	Automobile/Automotive Mechanic	47.0604	Workforce Degree	3
	Business Admin & Mgmt	52.0201	Workforce Degree	31

College	Program	CIP	Certificate Type	Awarded
	Heating, Air Conditioning, Ven	47.0201	Workforce Degree	10
	Web page, Digital/Multimedia	11.0801	Workforce Degree	2
	Welding Tech	48.0508	Workforce Degree	6

Looking Forward

As we reflect on the past year, we are inspired by the progress made in our corrections education programs and are excited for the future initiatives. Our commitment to providing high-quality educational opportunities for incarcerated individuals remains at the forefront of our mission.

In the upcoming fiscal year, we aim to expand education offerings to include Pell programs. Colleges are moving through the Pell application process through the Department of Education to increase opportunities for incarcerated individuals.

Additionally, SBCTC is continuing to explore innovative technological advancements to enhance our curricula, making learning more engaging and accessible.

We also intend to strengthen our FTE production and evaluation processes to better measure the impact of our programs. By analyzing outcomes, we can continually refine our approach.

Furthermore, SBCTC will continue to increase support for students re-entering society and their interest in furthering their education in the community through our robust navigator network.

With roughly 5,000 individuals released from Washington's prisons every year, the work continues. SBCTC looks forward to its continuing partnership with the Department of Corrections and colleges to continue to serve Washington's justice-impacted individuals.

Appendix A: Headcounts and Demographics

Table 8: System unduplicated headcount by gender

Gender	FY23 headcount	FY24 headcount	% Of enrolled students	Comparison to % of all Department of Corrections individuals
Female	485	476	9%	4%
Male	4,494	4,842	91%	38%

Table 9. System unduplicated headcount by age

Age group	FY23 headcount	FY24 headcount	Percent
Under 22	102	108	2%
22-34	2,153	2,274	42%
35-44	1,652	1,714	32%
45-59	905	1,006	19%
60 and over	167	216	4%
System total	4,979	5,318	100%

Table 10: System duplicated headcount by age and program area

Age Group	Basic Skills	Other	Vocational	Total Headcount
Under 22	112	0	12	124
22-34	1,630	10	1,098	2,738
35-44	975	17	1,001	1,993
45-59	559	7	581	1,147
60 and over	114	1	126	241
Duplicated Site Total	3,390	20	2,818	6,243

Table 11: System unduplicated headcount by ethnicity

Ethnicity	FY23 headcount	FY24 headcount	% Of enrolled students
African American	738	800	15%
Asian or Pacific Islander	144	141	3%
Latino/Hispanic	653	651	12%
Native American	204	209	4%
Other Race	630	536	10%
White	1,966	2,023	38%
Unreported/Unknown	644	958	18%
Total	4,979	5,318	100%

Table 12: Percent participation by gender and ethnicity duplicated by program area: men's prisons

Location	Program Area	African American	Asian/Pacific Islander	Latino/ Hispanic	Native American	Other Race	White	Unreported
Airway Heights	Basic Skills	7%	.25%	17%	5%	10%	19%	41%
	Vocational	6%	2%	10%	1%	13%	40%	27%
	Total	7%	1%	14%	4%	11%	28%	35%
Clallam Bay	Basic Skills	14%	1%	29%	3%	12%	35%	6%
	Vocational	23%	3%	20%	1%	9%	38%	5%
	Total	20%	3%	23%	2%	10%	37%	5%
Cedar Creek	Basic Skills	18%	5%	8%	5%	12%	40%	12%
	Vocational	23%	8%	3%	5%	14%	40%	6%
	Total	21%	7%	6%	5%	13%	40%	9%
Coyote Ridge	Basic Skills	18%	3%	19%	5%	7%	37%	11%
	Crime Prev	25%	25%	15%	0%	5%	25%	5%
	Vocational	19%	4%	12%	3%	10%	44%	8%
	Total	18%	4%	16%	4%	8%	40%	10%
Larch	Basic Skills	21%	0%	0%	0%	7%	14%	57%
	Vocational	33%	0%	0%	0%	0%	67%	0%

Location	Program Area	African American	Asian/Pacific Islander	Latino/ Hispanic	Native American	Other Race	White	Unreported
	Total	24%	0%	0%	0%	6%	23%	47%
Monroe	Basic Skills	15%	2%	13%	4%	16%	36%	14%
	Vocational	17%	2%	8%	2%	12%	46%	13%
	Total	16%	2%	11%	3%	14%	41%	13%
Olympic	Basic Skills	20%	3%	25%	7%	7%	32%	6%
	Vocational	27%	0%	0%	0%	0%	54%	18%
	Total	21%	3%	21%	6%	6%	25%	8%
Stafford Creek	Basic Skills	13%	2%	7%	2%	8%	25%	43%
	Vocational	17%	2%	4%	3%	7%	37%	31%
	Total	14%	2%	6%	3%	7%	30%	38%
WA Corrections	Basic Skills	15%	1%	18%	6%	10%	36%	14%
	Vocational	12%	3%	9%	5%	14%	47%	9%
	Other	27%	0%	0%	0%	27%	40%	7%
	Total	14%	1%	15%	5%	12%	40%	12%
WA Penitentiary	Basic Skills	20%	3%	17%	5%	10%	35%	8%
	Vocational	22%	2%	10%	5%	10%	47%	5%
	Total	21%	3%	13%	5%	10%	41%	7%

Table 13: Percent participation by gender and ethnicity duplicated by program area: women's prisons

Location	Program Area	African American	Asian/Pacific Islander	Latino/ Hispanic	Native American	Other Race	White	Unreported
WA Corrections Center, Women	Basic Skills	10%	2%	6%	5%	15%	33%	29%
	Vocational	8%	2%	4%	2%	15%	50%	18%
	Total	9%	2%	5%	3%	15%	41%	23%
	Basic Skills	7%	4%	8%	2%	7%	42%	29%

Location	Program Area	African American	Asian/Pacific Islander	Latino/ Hispanic	Native American	Other Race	White	Unreported
Mission Creek, Women	Vocational	4%	8%	10%	6%	16%	39%	16%
	Total	5%	5%	13%	7%	12%	47%	11%
% of Department of Corrections total		46%	29%	39%	38%	1,151%	36%	1,367%

Appendix B: FTEs Detail

Table 14: FTEs by location and program area

	Basic Skills			Pre-College			Vocational		
	Target	Completed	% Met	Target	Completed	% Met	Target	Completed	% Met
Airway Heights	195	272.8	140%	0	0	0%	148	107.3	72%
Clallam Bay	50	15.4	31%	10	2.3	23%	118	42.9	36%
Cedar Creek	26	39.6	152%	4	2.4	60%	35	34.1	97%
Coyote Ridge	230	254.1	110%	41	44.7	109%	324	241.5	74%
Larch	4	1.2	30%		0	0%	0	0	0%
Monroe	130	81.6	63%	8	3.7	46%	125	74.3	59%
Mission Creek, Women	10	14.5	145%	5	2.7	54%	17	6.8	40%
Olympic	24	15.8	66%	8	0	0%	0	0	0%
Stafford Creek	95	86.1	91%	35	25.6	73%	163	151.3	93%
WA Corrections	100	73.1	73$	0	0	0%	22	27	122%
WA Corrections for Women	66	49.9	76%	16	3.9	24%	104	92.9	89%
WA Penitentiary	295	297.8	101%	36	41.6	115%	386	287	74%
Total	1225	1201.9	98.1%	163	126.9	77%	1442	1065.1	74%

	ELA			Reentry Skills			Total		
	Target	Completed	% Met	Target	Completed	% Met	Target	Completed	% Met
Airway Heights	5	0	0%	12	9.0	75%	360	389.1	108%
Clallam Bay	0	0	0%	5	.3	6%	183	60.9	33%
Cedar Creek	0	0	0%	6	7.2	120%	71	83.3	117%
Coyote Ridge	50	58.3	116%	16	14.0	87%	661	612.6	93%
Larch	0	0	0%	1	.4	40%	5	2	40%
Monroe	0	0	0%	12	6.7	55%	275	166.3	60%
Mission Creek, Women	0	0	0%	5	4.1	82%	37	28.1	76%
Olympic	0	0	0%	6	1.5	25%	38	17.3	45%
Stafford Creek	20	1.1	5%	10	9.3	93%	323	273	85%
WA Corrections	0	0	0%	8	6.5	81%	130	106.6	82%
WA Corrections for Women	3	4.3	143%	12	5.2	43%	201	156.2	77%
WA Penitentiary	0	.8	100%	12	12.8	109%	729	640	88%
Total	78	64.5	83%	105	77	73%	3,013	2,536	84%

Appendix C: Faculty Full Time Equivalents (FTEF)

Table 15: College corrections education faculty

College	Location	Faculty headcount	Annual FTEF
Spokane	Airway Heights	13	12.33
Peninsula	Clallam Bay	10	8.17
Centralia	Cedar Creek	9	3.49
Walla Walla	Coyote Ridge	37	32
Clark	Larch	4	1.57
Edmonds	Monroe	13	8
Tacoma	Mission Creek for Women	3	1.39
Peninsula	Olympic	2	1
Grays Harbor	Stafford Creek	20	13.28
Centralia	WA Corrections	9	4.9
Tacoma	WA Corrections for Women	12	9.33
Walla Walla	WA Penitentiary	38	32.83
TOTAL		170	127.60