

SUNY ROAD MAP TO STARTING A COLLEGE-IN-PRISON (CIP) PROGRAM

If your SUNY campus is interested in finding ways to serve justice-involved students in your community, the following information may help you in planning and navigating critical conversations. We know everyone's path is different and some of these activities may occur simultaneously and/or on an ongoing basis.

More resources are available on our website: www.suny.edu/heji

Meet with HEJI Team

- Email suny-heji@suny.edu
- Learn the landscape of CIP in NYS, connect with other campuses, community partners, Department of Corrections & Community Supervision (DOCCS), and the New York Consortium for Higher Education in Prison (NYCHEP)

Build Relationship with Correctional Facility

- Work with facility to complete program proposal and establish roles and responsibilities
- Get key staff/faculty proper security clearance
- Tour the prison, meet correctional facility staff, and inventory available space for your program

Engage Prospective Students

- Meet with prospective students to learn about their needs and interests and share information about your campus
- Identify students who can be leaders, tutors, clerks, etc.
- Establish a process for student input and feedback
- Have interested students complete initial questionnaire

"EDUCATION IS THE PASSPORT TO THE FUTURE, FOR TOMORROW BELONGS TO THOSE WHO PREPARE FOR IT TODAY."
– MALCOLM X



Build a Team on Campus

- Identify representatives across campus and interested faculty who can help guide and develop program design, timeline, admissions and financial aid processes and procedures
- Designate a key liaison/staff person for the prison
- Add correctional facility as an additional location with Middle States Commission for Higher Education

Develop Re-Entry Support Services

- Identify what kind of pre-release services you can provide students in facility and what re-entry support your campus can provide upon release
- Identify statewide partners, other campuses, EOCs, and other organizations that can help support students upon release
- Consider hiring a formerly incarcerated consultant to help advise your campus