

**P**ostsecondary education has been proven to reduce recidivism and promote more successful transitions back into communities for adults returning from incarceration.<sup>1</sup> However, currently incarcerated and reentering adults often face barriers to receiving high-quality postsecondary education. The Council of State Governments Justice Center, with support from Lumina Foundation, conducted an intensive 50-state scan and survey of the statutory, financial, and administrative policies and practices that impact the provision of postsecondary education for this population. This fact sheet outlines the research findings for Hawaii.



### HOW ARE SERVICES FUNDED?

#### Correctional Agency Funding

- The Hawaii legislature may appropriate state funds for postsecondary education programs in state correctional facilities.<sup>2</sup> Postsecondary education is funded through federal sources—such as the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act—and private sources.<sup>3</sup>
- Hawaii is not using Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act funds for postsecondary education and did not apply for/receive Second Chance Pell pilot funding.<sup>4</sup>

#### State Financial Aid

- Hawaii financial aid programs do not have any statutory, regulatory, or policy restrictions that prevent people who are currently incarcerated from receiving aid.<sup>5</sup> The Hama Lima Scholarship is a need-based scholarship for “nontraditional students,” including formerly incarcerated people, participating in occupational training programs and is offered by Leeward Community College.<sup>6</sup>



### WHAT IS OFFERED INSIDE CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES?

#### Career and Technical Education and Certifications

- In partnership with the Hawaii Department of Public Safety (PSD), Kapiolani Community College<sup>7</sup> and Hawaii Community College<sup>8</sup> provide career and technical education in construction trades and culinary arts as well as programs leading to a certified technology certification.<sup>9</sup>

#### Associate and Bachelor's Degrees

- Associate degrees in philosophy are offered through the University of Hawaii system.<sup>10</sup>
- Bachelor's degrees in culinary arts are offered through the University of Hawaii system.<sup>11</sup>

#### Labor Market, Employer Feedback, and Outcome Data Alignment

- Hawaii has not identified local labor market trends, employer feedback, or outcome data as the primary factors that determine the types of postsecondary education and CTE programming that are offered within the correctional facility.<sup>12</sup>



## WHAT RESTRICTIONS OR BARRIERS ARE IMPOSED ON ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION?

### Statutory or Administrative Requirements, Permissions, and Restrictions

- ➔ Participation in postsecondary education programs is based on behavior during incarceration.<sup>13</sup>
- ➔ If withdrawn from an education program for disciplinary reasons, a participant will be eligible to reenroll within six months after their withdrawal.<sup>14</sup>

### Use of Criminal History in State College and University Applications

- ➔ Hawaii has four state universities, none of which used the 2019-2020 Common Application.<sup>15</sup> None of these state universities required students to disclose their criminal or disciplinary history.



## WHAT INCENTIVES AND SUPPORTS EXIST TO ENCOURAGE ENROLLMENT AND COMPLETION?

### Postsecondary Education as a Factor in Parole Decisions

- ➔ Participation in postsecondary education programs may be considered by the Hawaii Paroling Authority when reducing minimum terms of imprisonment.<sup>16</sup>
- ➔ State law permits the parole board to consider participation in or completion of postsecondary education programs during incarceration as a factor when granting or denying parole.<sup>17</sup>

### Parole Conditions Related to Postsecondary Education

- ➔ The paroling authority may require participation in postsecondary education as a condition of parole.<sup>18</sup>
- ➔ Post-release participation in postsecondary education can meet a parole requirement to seek or obtain employment.<sup>19</sup>

### Support and Services in the Community

- ➔ The parole-granting agency provides information on postsecondary education, but does not provide occupational training, postsecondary education advisors and coordinators, and vocational credential testing.<sup>20</sup>

### Coursework Transfer Policies

- ➔ PSD has memorandum of agreements with the University of Hawaii Community Colleges to assist with transferring credit upon release.<sup>21</sup>

1. Lois M. Davis et al., *Evaluating the Effectiveness of Correctional Education: A Meta-Analysis of Programs That Provide Education to Incarcerated Adults* (Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation, 2013), [https://www.rand.org/pubs/research\\_reports/RR266.html](https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR266.html).
2. HRS § 353H-31(a) and (b)(9); The Council of State Governments Justice Center electronic survey of state correctional education directors, July 12, 2019.
3. The Council of State Governments Justice Center electronic survey of state correctional education directors, July 12, 2019.
4. Ibid.
5. HI. Rev. Stat § 305J-4; HI. Rev. Stat § 304A-501 et seq.
6. "Registration," Leeward Community College, accessed April 8, 2019, <https://ocewd.org/registration/>; For more information about the scholarship, visit: <https://www.alulike.org/hlsp/>.
7. "Inmates graduate from Kapi'olani CC culinary class," *University of Hawaii News*, May 11, 2018, accessed April 8, 2019, <https://www.hawaii.edu/news/2018/05/11/inmates-graduate-kapiolani-culinary-class/>.
8. "Kulani Correctional Facility," Hawaii Department of Public Safety, accessed April 8, 2019, <http://dps.hawaii.gov/about/divisions/corrections/about-corrections/kcf/>.
9. The Council of State Governments Justice Center electronic survey of state correctional education directors, July 12, 2019.
10. The Council of State Governments Justice Center electronic survey of state correctional education directors, July 12, 2019; Phone call between The Council of State Governments and DPS Education Services, December 19, 2019.
11. The Council of State Governments Justice Center electronic survey of state correctional education directors, July 12, 2019.
12. Ibid.
13. Ibid.
14. Ibid.
15. The Common Application, an undergraduate college application system, recently removed its required criminal history question, but maintains its questions on disciplinary infractions. However, colleges on the Common Application can add questions regarding criminal conviction or disciplinary information to their individualized applications.
16. HAR § 23-700-29(3).
17. HRS § 353-64; HAR § 23-700-33(c); The Council of State Governments Justice Center electronic survey of state parole-granting agencies, July 12, 2019.
18. HRS § 353-67; The Council of State Governments Justice Center electronic survey of state parole-granting agencies, July 12, 2019.
19. The Council of State Governments Justice Center electronic survey of state parole-granting agencies, July 12, 2019.
20. Ibid.
21. The Council of State Governments Justice Center electronic survey of state correctional education directors, July 12, 2019; *State of Hawaii Department of Public Safety Annual Report FY 2018*, (State of Hawaii Department of Public Safety, 2018), 60, <https://dps.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/PSD-ANNUAL-REPORT-2018.pdf>.