

Educational and Rehabilitative Correspondence Programs for Prisoners

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“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”
— Nelson Mandela

In today’s world, technology is ubiquitous. Technology is integrated in our daily lives. From smartphones, tablets, and computers. We use technology every day. For many individuals, online classes and education courses are common. Distance learning via online classes is widespread and familiar. For individuals who are incarcerated, technology has also slowly made its way into numerous facilities across the nation. The majority of state, federal, and some major county facilities have implemented tablet programs. Today, there are around 1 million tablet users in correctional facilities across the U.S. Platforms such as Edovo, provide educational, vocational, and rehabilitative programs to incarcerated individuals through secure tablets.

Currently, the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) will soon issue secure tablets to all incarcerated individuals. With these secure tablets, incarcerated individuals will have access to programs such as: academic coursework and literacy support, evidence-based rehabilitative programs, and reentry preparation tools. In the state of California, incarcerated individuals have had secure tablets with similar access since mid-2021. With the state issued tablets, individuals have access to e-messages similar to email, receive photos, read about current events and news, as well as have access to academic coursework and rehabilitative programs all at their fingertips.

Although technology is slowly becoming more widespread in correctional facilities, what are the options for incarcerated individuals who do not have access to tablets or other technology? Many universities, companies, and nonprofit organizations offer correspondence courses for interested incarcerated individuals who would like to pursue higher education. These are some higher education correspondence providers that have programs catering to incarcerated students

Note: It is recommended to contact your education coordinator at your facility to ensure that you are able to receive and/or participate in correspondence education.

****Information is current as of July 2026****

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Adams State University

Adams State University strives to expand access to higher education opportunities for incarcerated students. Adams State University has its Prison Education Program (PEP). The PEP program sends print-based correspondence education.

Courses Offered: *Certificate of Completion*: Paralegal Certificate. *Associates Degree*: AA General Studies, AS Business Emphasis. *Bachelors Degree*: BA Sociology with an emphasis in Criminology and Social Work, BA/BS in Business Administration, BA in interdisciplinary studies. *Masters Degree*: Masters in Business Administration (MBA).

Accreditation: Regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC)

Contact information:

Adams State University
Prison Education Program (PEP) 208
Edgemont Blvd., Suite 3000
Alamosa, CO 81101

Phone: 719-587-7671

Fax: 719-587-7974

Colorado State University- Pueblo

Colorado State University (Pueblo) offers its Independent Study Program for incarcerated students. Colorado State University (Pueblo) offers print-based correspondence courses for incarcerated students. As of July 2026, tuition costs \$230 per credit hour equivalent to \$690 per 3 credit course per their website. In addition, there is a small fee added for individuals who are utilizing print-based correspondence. The fee covers printing and mailing costs.

Courses Offered: *Bachelor's Degree*: BA/BS in Criminology, BA/BS in Sociology, BA/BS in Psychology, Bachelors of Science (BS) in Interdisciplinary Studies, and a BA/BS in Business Management.

Accreditation: Regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC)

Contact Information:

2200 Bonforte Blvd
Pueblo, CO 81001-4901

Phone: 719-549-2316

Email: extendedstudies@csupueblo.edu

Rio Salado College

Rio Salado College offers its Incarcerated Re-Entry Program (IRE) for incarcerated students. Rio Salado College IRE program offers print-based correspondence education. The IRE program currently complies with the Arizona Department of Corrections, Arizona Rehabilitation & Renentry (ADCRR), women's facilities in the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP), CoreCivic, GEO Group, Salt River Pima-Maricopa County Indian Community Department of Corrections (SRPMIC), as well as prison policies regarding incarcerated student education. Interested individuals should provide the education contact at their facility for the IRE program to verify that your particular facility supports correspondence classes and that the incarcerated student is eligible to take courses offered by the Incarcerated Re-Entry Program (IRE).

Courses offered: *Certificate of Completion*: Quality Customer Service, Small Business Management, Workforce Development: Sustainable Food Systems, Workforce Development: Community Re-Entry. *Associates Degree*: Associates of Applied Science (AAS) in Addiction and Substance Abuse Disorders, Associates in Arts (AA) in Liberal Arts, Associates in Arts (AA) in General Studies.

Accreditation: Regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC)

Contact Information:

Rio Salado College
2323 W. 14th St
Tempe, AZ 85281

Phone: (480) 517-8000

Upper Iowa University

Upper Iowa University offers higher education opportunities for incarcerated students via its Corrections Education Program. The Corrections Education Program at Upper Iowa University offers a 6 month correspondence program for incarcerated students.

Courses offered: *Associates Degree:* Associates of Arts (AS) in Criminal Justice, Associate of Arts (AS) in Liberal Arts, Associates of Arts (AS) in General Business, and an Associates of Arts (AS) in Psychology. *Bachelors Degree:* Bachelors of Science (BS) in Criminal Justice, Bachelors of Science (BS) in Business Administration, Bachelors of Science (BS) in Psychology, Bachelors of Science (BS) in Public Administration, and a Bachelors of Science (BS) in Social Science.

Accreditation: Regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC)

Contact Information:

**Upper Iowa
University**

P.O. Box 1857
Fayette, IA 52142-185

Phone: 800-553-4150

Email: info@uiu.edu

****FREE** College Guild**

College Guild is a non-profit organization that offers free correspondence courses to incarcerated students in the United States. College Guild's mission is to serve all incarcerated individuals. College Guild is a non-profit and non-affiliated organization and strives to ensure representation for all. College Guild is a great option for those with inquisitive minds and a willingness to learn.

Courses Offered: Environmental Issues, Health and Disease, Logic/Puzzles/Games, Marine Biology, Science, *History and Art*: Art of the Masters, Fundamentals of Drawing, History, Inventions, Philosophy, U.S. Education, World Mythology, *Writing*: Biography, Creative Language, Culture and Society.

Accreditation: None (non-profit organization)

**Contact
Information:
College Guild
P.O. Box 696
Brunswick, ME 04011**

Phone: (207) 729-0043

Email: info@collegeguild.org

Email the name, DOC number, and mailing address of the interested incarcerated individual. College Guild will send an enrollment packet

****FREE** Criminon International**

Criminon (without crime) is a non-profit organization dedicated to rehabilitation and reform. Criminon International offers free correspondence self-help courses to incarcerated individuals. Criminon International has delivered courses and workshops to incarcerated individuals as well as those who work and/or are involved in the correctional system since 1989. Certificates are provided for each successful completion of a course. Interested family members of incarcerated individuals may request a correspondence course via their Course Request Form on their website.

Courses Offered: The Way to Happiness, Learning Skills for Life, Understanding & Overcoming Addiction, Successful Parenting Skills, Overcoming Ups & Downs in Life, Communication Tools, Personal Values & Integrity, and Improving Conditions in Life.

Accreditation: None (non-profit organization)

Contact Information:

7065 Hollywood Blvd

Suite 300

Los Angeles, CA 90028

Phone: 1-888-837-3523

Email: info@criminon.org

Blackstone Career Institute

Blackstone Career Institute offers online course content to students and adult learners in the United States. Blackstone Career Institute offers a Paralegal Certificate Program as well as 10 advanced paralegal courses via correspondence for incarcerated students. The Paralegal Certificate Program issues a Certificate of Completion to incarcerated students who fully complete their program. The school also offers 10 other advanced paralegal courses for incarcerated students such as Business & Corporate Law and Practical Bankruptcy.

Accreditation: Regionally accredited by the Middle States Association (MSA) as well as the Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DEAC)

Contact Information:

1011 Brookside Rd Suite 300
Allentown, PA 18106
Phone: 800-826-9228

Email: info@blackstone.edu

Stratford Career Institute

Stratford Career Institute offers online course content to students across the United States and Canada. Stratford Career Institute is a privately owned correspondence school that was established in 1991. Stratford Career Institute offers self-paced print correspondence to incarcerated students via its Inmate Education program. Incarcerated students can enroll in any of Stratford's 60 self-paced correspondence courses. All textbooks and study guides are included in the cost of Stratford's Inmate Education program. From Accounting, Paralegal, to Drug & Alcohol Treatment Specialist course. Stratford Career Institute offers a wide range of correspondence courses. Incarcerated students receive a Certificate upon completion of their chosen correspondence course.

Accreditation: None

Contact Information:

Phone: 1-800-254-4070