



OREGON YOUTH AUTHORITY
Policy Statement
Part II – Youth Services (Facilities)



Subject

Post-secondary Education in OYA Facilities

Section – Policy Number:

E: Programming – 10.0

Supersedes:

None

Effective Date:

12/30/2014

Date of Last Review/Revision:

None

Related Standards and References:

- [Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act](#) (FERPA)
- [ORS 420.060 - 420.074](#) (Employment Program)
- [ORS 420A.010](#) (Creation and duties)
- [ORS 420A.125](#) (Youth offenders; intake assessments; reformation plan; placement)
- [ORS 326.695 - 326.712](#) (Youth corrections and juvenile detention education programs)
- [ORS 351.006](#) (Fundamental goals of public higher education)
- [OYA policy: I-A-11.0](#) (Assessment, Multidisciplinary Teams, and Case Planning)
- [I-B-3.0](#) (Offender Trust Accounts)
- [II-F-1.0](#) (Offender Rights [Facility])

Related Procedures:

- None

Policy Owner:

Facilities Services Assistant
Director

Approved:


Fariborz Pakseresht, Director

I. PURPOSE:

This policy sets standards for OYA facilities to offer offender access to post-secondary education.

II. POLICY DEFINITIONS:

MOOC: Massive Open Online Course. A course of study made available over the Internet without charge and available to a large number of people.

Post-secondary Education: Any education beyond high school, including college and vocational courses.

Vocational Education Services for Older Youth (VESOY): A program that provides educational services to youth who reside in close-custody facilities and are no longer eligible for YCEP.

Youth Corrections Education Program (YCEP): A program that provides educational services to youth who reside in close-custody facilities who do not have a high school diploma or are 21 years old or younger.

III. POLICY:

Offenders who participate in post-secondary education gain the knowledge, skills, and proficiencies for employment or further education upon return into the community. OYA strives to offer a variety of post-secondary education opportunities for offenders who reside in its facilities.

IV. GENERAL STANDARDS:

A. Course Offerings

1. Each OYA facility must offer eligible offenders who are not enrolled in high school at least one college class or college preparatory class and access to MOOC courses each academic semester.
2. The superintendent or camp director must ensure offenders have access to a computer and other education materials for post-secondary education purposes outside regular high school operating hours.

- B. The superintendent or camp director must ensure VESYOY staff or contractors counsel offenders on post-secondary education by offering a college orientation and information on available courses, vocational training, and certificate programs.

Guidelines for offenders to attain at least an associate's degree must be available.

- C. The multidisciplinary team (MDT) must review each offender's education goals during regularly scheduled MDT meetings.

The MDT must refer offenders to VESYOY staff or contractors for post-secondary education counseling as appropriate.

D. Student Aid

Some offenders may qualify for post-secondary education student aid. Staff may contact the Facility Services Education Administrator regarding possible student aid options for offenders.

E. Contributions to Offender Post-secondary Education Costs

1. Treatment managers must ensure money received for payment toward an offender's post-secondary education costs is handled according to OYA policy [I-B-3.0 Offender Trust Accounts](#), section IV.D.3 (Special Account).
2. OYA New Beginnings Scholarship

The Oregon Student Access Commission (OSAC) administers the OYA New Beginnings scholarship fund that specifically benefits offenders residing in OYA facilities. Any person may donate to this scholarship fund.

Staff may refer interested parties to the scholarship fund by giving the following information:

- a) Online donations:
<https://secure2.osac.state.or.us/CCOrders/Donations.aspx>
Select from scholarship dropdown list: Oregon Youth Authority New Beginnings.
 - b) Donation by mail:
Mail a check payable to "Oregon Student Access Commission" with "program #596" on the memo line to:
Oregon Student Access Commission
Attention: Scholarships
1500 Valley River Drive, Ste. 100
Eugene, OR 97401
3. OYA policy II-F-1.0 (Offender Rights [Facility]) prohibits OYA from requiring an offender to make a public statement of gratitude regarding contributions received.

F. Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The [Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act](#) (FERPA) is a federal law that protects students' privacy by prohibiting disclosure of education records without adult consent. Advance written permission is required to release student-level information, such as student coursework, class discussions, recorded comments, and grades, if they are linked to any information that would enable a member of the school community to identify the student. Exceptions in the law allow individuals such as teachers and administrators with a legitimate educational interest in the student's record to access personally identifiable student data without prior consent.

Staff must ensure offender education records or information are not inappropriately disclosed to visitors, stakeholders, volunteers, education partners, or others who may have contact with offenders. Staff may contact the Facility Services Education Administrator if they have questions about FERPA.

V. LOCAL OPERATING PROTOCOL REQUIRED: NO