

# THE UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE'S SECOND CHANCE COLLEGE PROGRAM

## Background

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On June 26, 2016, The University of Baltimore was selected to participate in the U.S. Department of Education's Second Chance Pell Grant Experimental Sites Initiative. The University was among 67 other colleges and universities selected nationwide to offer a post-secondary correctional education program through federal Pell Grant funding. Since 2016, we have served 95 students.

## Corrections Partnership

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Our program is offered at Jessup Correctional Institution (JCI), a maximum security prison for men located 25 minutes from our campus.

## Mentorship

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We have developed a mentorship and tutoring program for the JCI students. Our mentors/tutors are incarcerated men at JCI who are active leaders and role models in the prison. Many of the mentors have a college education and are strongly committed to higher education.

## Outcomes

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The objective of this initiative is to provide post-secondary education to incarcerated students prior to release, therefore reducing the likelihood of recidivism and improving outcomes for educational and employment success.

## Educational Program

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Students at JCI are engaged in general education coursework. They take two to three courses each semester, and participate in 10 hours of weekly study hall sessions where they have access to computers, tutoring, mentoring and academic counseling. The students are working toward a bachelor's degree in Human Service Administration.

## Pathway to Campus

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Our program model will allow most students to begin their coursework at JCI and transition to the our campus once released. We believe it is an important re-entry strategy to have students immediately attend classes at the University of Baltimore, while receiving support services to assist with their transition. Our re-entry support services include case management, referral services, job assistance, advocacy during court/parole hearings and academic support services on campus.

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### CONTACT:

Andrea Cantora, director  
Second Chance College Program  
acantora@ubalt.edu  
410.837.5352  
ubalt.edu/secondchance