

What is the Education Justice Project?

EJP is a comprehensive college-in-prison program that works with incarcerated individuals, returning citizens, and their families to further our vision of a more humane, just society.

We are a unit of the College of Education at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and operate at three sites:

Danville Correctional Center, a men's medium-security state facility in central Illinois.

University of Illinois' Urbana-Champaign Campus. EJP hosts activities and events that support critical understanding of incarceration and criminal justice.

Chicago and Urbana-Champaign. We work with returning citizens and families impacted by incarceration to provide support and facilitate advocacy and leadership development.

EJP members, including incarcerated EJP students, produce scholarship related to our work. We are committed to public outreach and collaboration with local and international partners. We also produce a state-wide reentry guide.

What Are EJP's Outcomes?

*Less than half formerly incarcerated men in the U.S. find employment within 8 months of their release.

79% of former EJP students are employed within that time;

They obtain employment on average 6.3 weeks after their release.

*IL's recidivism rate is 47% (2013).

EJP's recidivism rate is around 6%.

Visit our website to learn more about our students' successes and the difference higher education and EJP makes to their families. Prison education is a meaningful way to tackle the challenges of social justice and public safety, and it makes economic sense.



How Much Does EJP Cost?

It costs surprisingly little to run this award-winning program.

EJP's anticipated expenses for 2016-17 are \$125k. The total value of the program is much higher, since most EJP members donate their expertise and labor, and publishers often donate books or discount their prices. This fiscal year, we estimate **in-kind donations to EJP will be over \$255,000.**

What Are EJP's Expenses?

Our largest budget items are:

Printing costs. This is by far our largest non-personnel expense. It includes course materials, EJP newsletters, and brochures and handouts like this one.

Instructional books and materials. EJP students are assigned the same books and articles as students enrolled on the Urbana-Champaign campus.

Travel. This includes support of EJP members--including formerly incarcerated students--traveling to conferences to share about their work with EJP and the value of prison education.

Personnel Costs. The director's salary is donated by the College of Education. EJP has a full-time operations manager, and offers modest stipends to EJP project coordinators.

Where Does Funding Come From?

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

External grants

Private donations

EJP Expenditures - Last 5 Years

Year	Personnel	Non-Personnel	Total
FY 12	13,882	17,693	\$31,575
FY 13	19,640	32,536	\$52,176
FY 14	60,956	66,439	\$127,395
FY 15	58,378	69,016	\$127,394
FY 16	77,747	57,234	\$134,981



Quick Facts about EJP

- 2008 Year EJP started
- 140 Average # of men served by EJP programs each year
- 0 Number of comparable programs in Illinois
- 17 # of awards and recognitions
- 60 % of EJP students who report their participation in prison higher education has had a “very strong” impact on their families (highest ranking)



The mission of the Education Justice Project is to build a model college-in-prison program that demonstrates the positive impacts of higher education upon incarcerated students, their families, the communities from which they come, the host institution, and society at large.