

RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS WITH INCARCERATION EXPERIENCE

Let's take a look at some of the misconceptions pertaining to formerly incarcerated individuals and higher education/careers opportunities.

Misconception #1: A person with a record cannot pursue higher education: False, universities have populations of students with a record. You are welcome to pursue a degree and education.

Misconception #2: Formerly incarcerated individuals do not qualify for financial aid: False, Along with FAFSA, formerly incarcerated individuals are welcome to apply for grants and scholarships to provide financial assistance for your education.

Misconception #3: You will be unable to obtain a job with a record: False, aside from specific industries that restrict licensing and certifications to individuals with a record, many companies still provide opportunities for individuals with a record to gain employment.

Take your barriers and see them as opportunities: Although there are barriers that restrict your career outlets, you have access to resources as a student at CSUF that may guide you through your career journey. Instead of looking at the barriers, see the opportunities available to assist you in breaking through those career barriers.

Career Related Suggestions

1. Visit CSUF Project Rebound: This is the first crucial step before doing anything. Project Rebound is dedicated to helping students who have prior criminal justice system involvement. Project Rebound will assist you through everything from career support, academic support, and other types of support that you are seeking. It is a no-brainer to connect with them first.

www.fullerton.edu/rebound/

2. Perform your research: Before making a decision on your major, it is important to perform research to see how your record may affect your employment odds. Licensure for various careers is different for each state and it is important to perform research on the laws and regulations of each state.

3. Utilize O-Net: The Occupational Information Network (O-Net) is a free database of hundreds of occupational definitions to assist students in performing research on potential careers.

www.onetonline.org/

4. Visit the Career Center: Project Rebound and the Career Center is going to be your "bread and butter" essential resources when focusing on your career. The Career Center will provide you assistance on all your career needs from interviews to resumes.

www.fullerton.edu/career/

5. Tuffy's Basic Needs: Tuffy's Basic Needs is an on-campus department dedicated to providing students with assistance on a variety of basic needs (Food, clothing, housing, etc.). In terms of careers, Tuffy does offer a clothes closet to provide you with apparel for interviews

www.fullerton.edu/deanofstudents/basic_needs/

6. Visit GE Advising: After selecting your major and future career, you want to make sure you are on track to graduate by meeting with an advisor in general education advising. By maintaining a close relationship with your advisor, you can have someone guide you in selecting the necessary correct classes.

www.fullerton.edu/aac/

7. Joining Clubs and Organizations, Student Life & Leadership: Along with adding experience into your resume, campus involvement can be a great resume booster and allow you to network with others with similar aspirations.

www.fullerton.edu/sll/involvement/clubs/



On-Campus Resources

Project Rebound

Project Rebound is a program that supports the higher education and successful reintegration of formerly incarcerated individuals wishing to enroll and succeed at CSUF. Project Rebound welcomes any student who has been previously incarcerated or has prior criminal justice system involvement. Since 2016, Project Rebound students system-wide have earned an overall GPA of 3.0, have a 0% recidivism rate, and 87% of graduates have secured full-time employment or admission to postgraduate programs fullerton.edu/rebound/

Rebound Scholars

A student organization for formerly-incarcerated students and allies. fullerton.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/rebound

Sober Scholars: Students in sobriety, recovering, weekly meetings. fullerton.campuslabs.com/engage/event/5514043

Osher LifeLong Learning Institute

Monthly meeting mentorship program that pairs a current student with a retired, formerly incarcerated professionals in collaboration with CSUF. olli.fullerton.edu/more_info/olli_csuf_collaboration/mentoring.php

Project Rebound Consortium: The national organization comprised of all the universities with a Project Rebound organization. www2.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/student-success/project-rebound

Off-Campus Resources

Department of Rehab

State Organization that assists people with disabilities and support for opportunities for employment www.dor.ca.gov/

Department of Developmental Services

www.dds.ca.gov/

Homeboy Industries

Located in East Los Angeles, Homeboy Industries is the largest gang intervention, rehab, and re-entry program in the world. homeboyindustries.org/

Anti-Recidivism Coalition

antirecidivism.org/

Project Kinship

The mission of the Anti-Recidivism Coalition (ARC) is to change lives and create safe, healthy communities by providing a support and advocacy network for and by formerly incarcerated men and women. projectkinship.org/

Corrections to College

A network of California Community Colleges committed to serving incarcerated and formerly incarcerated students by providing degree-granting programs in correctional facilities and on-campus support for students who have experienced the criminal justice system risingscholarsnetwork.org/resources/striving-for-success/

Scholarships

Rebound Scholars

2 Scholarships available for Project Rebound participants:

- **John Irwin Memorial: Semesterly Scholarship, Academic Based** www.fullerton.edu/rebound/programs_services/financial_aid.php
- **Opportunity Scholarship: Need based scholarship** www.fullerton.edu/financialaid/general/scholarships.php

ASI Project Rebound Scholarship (5 scholarships \$1000 a semester) www.fullerton.edu/services#Scholarships

CSUF Financial Aid Scholarships

www.fullerton.edu/financialaid/general/scholarships.php

