

Identifying and Scaling Higher Education in Prison Programmatic Resources: Grantee Profile



Loyola University New Orleans



Location | New Orleans, Louisiana

Facilities served:

- B. B. Rayburn Correctional Center

[Additional Program Information](#)



Resource Overview: PEP Data Collection Inventory Tool

The PEP Data Collection Inventory Tool was developed during Loyola's Prison Education Program (PEP) implementation at Rayburn Correctional Center, a medium-security men's facility. It addresses the common challenge higher education in prison (HEP) programs face in navigating complex reporting requirements, some clearly stated in policy, others found only in difficult-to-interpret legislation, while coordinating processes between HEP programs, university systems, and corrections partners. The tool provides a train-the-trainer resource that offers a centralized data inventory framework and guides programs through coordinated conversations with institutional partners. By offering a structured approach to understanding data collection, protection, and usage across systems, this resource enables programs to meet federal compliance standards, demonstrate collective impact for sustained funding, and ensure accurate tracking of student outcomes.



What the Resource Includes

The PEP Data Collection Inventory Tool is for HEP program leaders who serve as intermediaries between HEP programs, colleges, and corrections partners, and for HEP consortia seeking to support consistent data collection and reporting practices across member programs. The resource will include the following components:

- A data collection inventory tool listing required data with guiding questions
- Train-the-trainer materials that can be leveraged for asynchronous use
- Implementation guidance for programs



Resource Refinement and Scaling Journey

Through this grant, the Loyola team will engage in an evidence-informed cycle of continuous improvement to enhance the applicability and transferability of these resources to the broader HEP field.

The Loyola team will improve and finalize the resources through a series of hands-on refinement activities. This work will include scanning the literature to inform resource content, organization, and presentation; refining the tool from its current form; vetting content with subject matter experts; and piloting the tool with HEP programs to test its usability. The team will explore these key topics during the refinement and scaling process:

- Student information that PEPs collect for corrections, including required identifiers, academic outcomes, and withdrawal reasons
- Department of Education evaluation metrics found in legislation, and the level of awareness, interpretation, and negotiability of these requirements among HEP stakeholders
- Information collected through student applications and ongoing HEP program operations to meet reporting requirements and track student progress
- Systems alignment and standardization across consortia and coalitions to demonstrate collective impact and ensure consistent data collection practices

Learn More About the Grantee

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- Department of Education evaluation metrics found in legislation, and the level of awareness, interpretation, and negotiability of these requirements among HEP stakeholders
- Information collected through student applications and ongoing HEP program operations to meet reporting requirements and track student progress

To learn more about the project's evidence-informed continuous improvement cycle, read the [Identifying and Scaling Higher Education in Prison Programmatic Resources one-pager](#). The insights and materials developed through this project will be shared with the broader HEP field to support ongoing improvement in prison education programs.



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