

#21520 - College in Prison Survey of Student Engagement

Protocol Information

Review Type	Status	Approval Date	Continuing Review Date
Expedited	Approved	Jul 05, 2024	Jul 04, 2025
Expiration Date	Initial Approval Date	Initial Review Type	
--	Jul 05, 2024	Expedited	

Feedback

Approval Comment

This research is approved under the following expedited category:
-Category 7

General Information

Principal Investigator

BrckaLorenz, Allison

Lead Unit

BL-CPR - CENTER FOR POSTSECONDARY RESEA

Study Title

College in Prison Survey of Student Engagement

0100

Select your protocol type.

Expedited/Full Board

Research Personnel

This Personnel list is for Research Personnel Only. For individuals who need access to the protocol but are not research personnel, add them to the **Permissions** tab.

For **NEW** studies and Amendments changing the PI, you must click on the pencil icon to complete all required information in the person record.

Person

BrckaLorenz, Allison

Email Address

abrckalo@indiana.edu

Researcher Role

Principal Investigator (PI)

Home Unit

BL-CPR - CENTER FOR POSTSECONDARY RESEA

IU Faculty, Staff or Student?

Yes

Select IU Role

Other

IU Title/Role

Associate Research Scientist

Is the researcher affiliated with any of the following? Select all that apply.

None of the Above

Permission Type

Full Access

0142

Training

Behavioral/Social Science Researcher - Stage 1 - CITI
03/21/22 - 03/20/27

0109

COI Disclosure

Status: Approved

People Attachments

Attachment

[BRCKALORENZ CV CURRENT.PDF](#)

Name

BrckaLorenz CV

Attachment Type

Curriculum Vitae

Comments

Person

Gonyea, Robert

Email Address

rgonyea@indiana.edu

Researcher Role

Co-PI

IU Faculty, Staff or Student?

Yes

Is the researcher affiliated with any of the following? Select all that apply.

None of the Above

Permission Type

Full Access

0142

Training

Behavioral/Social Science Researcher - Stage 1 - CITI
11/03/22 - 11/03/27

0109

COI Disclosure

Status: Approved

People Attachments

0259

Are there any affiliated personnel you are unable to add because they were not found in the drop down list?

No

0195

Are you requesting that the IU IRB serve as the IRB of record for any *non-affiliated* researchers?

No

Conflict Of Interest

0110

Do any of the research personnel have a significant financial interest which could affect this research?

No

0114

Are any of the research personnel aware of an institutional conflict of interest which could affect or be affected by this research?

No

Research Basics

0102

Will the study be funded, fully or partly, by any of the following sources (this includes pass through funding)? Select all that apply.

No external funding

0104

Select all of the following that are applicable to the research.

None of the above

0105

Select all of the following ancillary reviews that are required for the research.

None of the above

0107

Select all of the following participant types that will be included in the research.

Prisoners

0108

Does any research activity in this study present more than minimal risk to human subjects?

No

0129

Does the research involve ANY subject interaction and/or intervention?

Select No if the research is limited to use of previously collected data or specimens.

Yes

Research Design

0150

Provide a brief statement (no more than 2 – 3 sentences) of the purpose of this study, in lay terms.

The purpose of the study will be to provide college-in-prison programs with data to evaluate the quality of their educational programs, assess the student experience, and compare their programs to similar programs across the United States.

0151

Is there a separate Protocol document or research plan for this study?

No

0152

Provide the scientific background, justification for conducting the study, and if applicable, results of similar studies or pilot data.

There is little to no data currently collected on incarcerated student educational experiences. Collecting this data will help to promote the idea that data collection is a key aspect of a quality education, and the ability to compare data nationally will rapidly enhance a field that has been siloed and lacking in data for several decades.

0153

Describe the research interactions or interventions and data collection methods for the study. Include the frequency and duration of each procedure or activity.

All participants will be given the opportunity to complete the College-in-Prison Survey of Student Engagement. The survey will take about 30 minutes to complete. Participants will respond to the survey one time. This survey will be administered at multiple sites in multiple states. IU personnel will not be on site at any time. In coordination with the IU HRPP, a plan was created to address engagement and consent issues, as well as site tracking and state law: 1. Researchers will coordinate with the appropriate Department of Corrections in order to obtain permission to conduct the research in each facility. A form in the attachments, "Permission Form.docx" will be utilized. As noted in the attachments, this form will be customized with details from each prison, signed by officials from the Department of Corrections, and uploaded in an Amendment for IRB to have on record. College-in-Prison programs will not be able to participate in the study without this form on record. 2. The people from the College-in-Prison program who will assist with this research will be added via amendment as non-affiliated personnel, as they will be the ones recruiting, consenting, and collecting data. 3. A spreadsheet will be included and updated via amendment with information about the specific College-In-Prison program. This will include: facility, college program, contact person. This spreadsheet template has been uploaded as "CIPSSE Site Details.xlsx" 4. Additionally, when sites are added, they will be listed at 0340. When facilities in new states are added, IU investigators will work with IU HRPP staff to ensure the research is conducted in compliance with state laws.

Research Settings

0116

Select all of the settings where the research interactions or interventions will take place.

Other

0121

Name or describe the school or other settings where the research interactions or interventions will take place.

The survey will be administered, on paper, at the participating college-in-prison campuses. College-in-prison programs are located in prisons across the United States. A full list can be found here:

<https://www.nationaldirectoryhep.org/>. The specific locations of the survey administration will be determined by the college-in-prison program staff but will likely take place in their usual classroom settings. Students will be informed of specific details on the time and place of administration in recruitment materials.

0122

Select one of the following as it relates to the other research settings.

Permission from the location has been or will be obtained prior to conducting research interactions or interventions at the facility. Ensure a copy of this permission is retained in the research record.

Confidentiality & Privacy

0133

Select any source of information listed below that will be used for the research, either to identify potential subjects or gather research data. Select all that apply.

None of the above

0135

Will any data generated as part of the research be entered into a subject's medical record?

No

0159

Describe where identifiable electronic subject data will be stored, and how it will be protected to ensure confidentiality (e.g. all electronic data will be collected and stored on only encrypted devices).

Although survey responses will be completed/collected on paper, research staff will hand-enter paper selections into an electronic Qualtrics survey form. IU personnel will not physically collect paper surveys from prisoners. College-in-prison staff will return the paper surveys with a pre-paid shipping label so that paper surveys are delivered directly to IU personnel's campus office. One staff member will hand enter responses in Qualtrics, and a second staff member will verify accuracy. After data is entered, paper surveys will be shredded. No identifiable information will be collected on the paper survey form and so will not be stored electronically. The use of the Qualtrics survey (XM Platform) is already licensed by the Indiana University System. As such, UITS previously completed the Higher Education Cloud Vendor Assessment Tool (HECVAT) for licensing with Qualtrics (see description of HECVAT below). IU Center for Postsecondary Research staff access to data is limited to the investigators listed in this IRB application. Any requests by non-project investigators must be authorized by the CIPSSE PI. HECVAT description "In order to protect the institution and its systems, vendors whose products and/or services will access and/or host institutional data must complete the Higher Education Cloud Vendor Assessment Tool. Throughout this tool, anywhere where the term data is used, this is an all-encompassing term including at least data and metadata. Answers will be reviewed by Institution security analysts upon submittal. This process will assist the institution in preventing breaches of protected information and comply with Institution policy, state, and federal law. This is intended for use by vendors participating in a Third Party Security Assessment and should be completed by a vendor."

0162

Describe the procedures that will be used to ensure confidentiality of written/paper records that contain subjects' identifiable data.

Although surveys will be completed/collected on paper, we will not be collecting any identifiable data (name, ID, etc.)

0163

Describe the setting where research procedures will occur and how that protects subjects' privacy. Consider recruitment, consent, and study interventions.

Each institution will determine who exactly is eligible to participate in the CIPSSE administration. A school official or listed research personnel will administer the survey to students enrolled in the college-in-prison program. Institutions may promote participation indirectly by posting the recruitment message in public spaces or through class announcements and delivery of the recruitment message which explains that the results are important for institutional improvement and that participation is voluntary. The survey will be distributed in an in-person group format. Staff administering the survey will read a brief script (located in the attached administration guidelines), and an Informed Consent Statement will be given to students on paper, but student names/signatures will not be collected in order to maintain confidentiality of the survey results. Administering officials will be instructed that they must not convey any message to the student, implicitly or explicitly, that they are required to complete the survey or that there is any penalty for non-completion. Consent will be implied by a student submitting a completed questionnaire, but they are free to turn in a blank form if they do not consent to participation.

Multi-site and IU sIRB

0124

Is this a multi-site study?

No

Transnational Research

0475

Does the research involve any of the following transnational components? *Select all that apply.*

None of the above

FDA

0200

Does this research involve the study of any of the following products (regardless of FDA approval status)?

None

Eligibility and Recruitment

0300

List the criteria that would make people eligible to be included in this study.

Any student enrolled in credit-bearing courses within the college-in-prison program would be eligible to participate. Students will be at least 18 years of age as prisoners younger than 18 are housed in separate facilities and not included in the college-in-prison programs.

0301

List the criteria that would exclude people from this study.

There would be no criteria that would exclude an enrolled student from participating although unique circumstances at the prison (disciplinary actions, illness, etc.) might make a student unavailable to participate when the survey is administered.

0304

Will subjects be offered any of the following for their participation in the study? All of these are forms of payment. Select all that apply.

None of the above. No payment.

0307

Describe your recruitment process, including how subjects will be identified and contacted.

Subjects will not be identified for the IU researchers so college-in-prison officials will need to determine how students will be recruited to participate. College-in-prison school officials will identify students and provide them with information about participating with the attached student recruitment template. Officials can post the recruitment materials in public spaces or provide individual students with copies of the recruitment materials.

0308

Will any of the following sources be used to recruit subjects?

Neither of the above

0314

Will any information be kept about individuals who decline participation or are found to be ineligible?

No

0316

If a subject participates in this study, would it stop or prevent them from participating in another study?

No

Prisoners

0324

Explain the need for inclusion of prisoners in the research.

Understanding the experiences of prisoners enrolled in a college-in-prison program is the purpose of our study.

0325

Provide information on the PI's experience with prisoners.

The PI's on this study have minimal experience working with prisoners, but they are consulting with representatives from The Center for Community College Student Engagement at The University of Texas at Austin and the Moreau College Initiative at Holy Cross College, an A.A. and B.A. degree-conferring, liberal arts program at Westville Correctional Facility (MCI). MCI enrolls 70+ students and offers over 40 classes annually.

0326

Explain how any possible advantages to the prisoner through his or her participation in the research do not provide undue influence when compared to the general living conditions, medical care, quality of food, amenities and opportunity for earnings in the prison.

There will be no direct advantages to the prisoner participating in this research. They will be informed that their participation could contribute to the improvement of the college-in-prison program for future prisoners enrolled in the program.

0327

Explain how the risks involved in the research are equivalent to those that would be accepted by non-prisoner participants.

The only anticipated risk due to participation would be the possible loss of confidentiality of the responses as part of data analysis through an examination of demographics. The consequences of such loss of confidentiality would be minimal due to the nature of the questions asked on the CIP SSE survey which do not cover topics that would generally be considered of a sensitive nature. Survey questions are not of a nature that would tend to embarrass students or place them at risk of physical, psychological, social, or legal harm.

0328

Explain how procedures for the selection of subjects within the prison are fair to all prisoners and not subject to arbitrary intervention by prison authorities or prisoners.

Prison authorities or other prisoners will not be involved in the selection of subjects. College-in-prison program officials will determine eligibility. Eligible prisoners are those enrolled in the college-in-prison program.

0329

Will prisoners serve as control subjects?

No

0332

Select to confirm

Parole boards will not take into account a prisoner's participation in the research when making decisions regarding parole.

0333

Explain how each prisoner subject will be clearly informed in advance that participation in the research will have no effect on his or her parole.

The recruitment materials, script read at the time of survey administration, and Informed Consent statement handed to prisoners on paper will inform them that participation in the research study will have no effect on their parole.

0334

Is follow-up examination or care of subjects after the end of their participation in research necessary or appropriate?

No

0336

Will the research be conducted within a correctional institution?

Yes, and a letter of cooperation from all facilities where research will be conducted is uploaded in the Protocol Attachments section below.

0337

Select all applicable locations of research.

Department of Corrections (Indiana state prisons)

Bureau of Prisons (federal prisons)

Other

0340

Due to the selection of other, describe further the locations of the research.

College-in-prison programs located in state prisons will be eligible for participation in the study. The entire list of college-in-prison programs can be found here: <https://www.nationaldirectoryhep.org/>

0338

Explain how the research contributes to the advancement of knowledge about corrections.

The purpose of the study will be to provide college-in-prison programs with data to evaluate the quality of their educational programs, assess the student experience, and compare their programs to similar programs across the United States. There will not likely be an advancement in direct knowledge about corrections but it will indirectly advance knowledge about corrections through experiences in college-in-prison programs.

0339

Select to confirm

The PI agrees to abide by the requirements of 28 CFR 512.11.

0341

Describe the location(s) of interviews and other interactions with subjects, including privacy features.

There will not be any discussions/interviews with the subjects. The only interaction will be students filling out a paper survey about their experiences.

0342

Due to prisoners not always having access to a phone (or other methods of contact), explain the plan for communication with subjects.

The researchers will not directly communicate with the prisoners. All communications will be made through the college-in-prison program officials.

Consent/Assent/Authorization

0410

Will all or some subjects consent to participate in the research?

All subjects will consent to participate in the research.

0443

Does your study require any research procedures to occur prior to discussing study participation with subjects?

No

0415

Describe your typical consent process for this study.

College-in-prison officials will read a script and provide a paper copy of the Informed Consent statement to prisoners. After receiving the Consent Statement, consenting prisoners will fill out the survey. Prisoners who do not consent to participation will be able to turn in a blank survey.

0418

Will the study include deception, incomplete disclosure, or withholding information from subjects?

No

0425

Will any member of the research team be in a position of authority (e.g. instructor and his/her students, manager and his/her employees) over the subjects to be consented?

No

0427

Do you plan to consent subjects who do not speak English?

No

0416

Describe how you will protect against, or minimize, each of the risks listed in the consent document(s).

The only anticipated risk due to participation would be the possible loss of confidentiality of the responses as part of data analysis through an examination of demographics. Participating institution officials will be advised to not attempt to identify participants as part of their terms of participation in the study.

0430

For those subjects who will consent to participate, choose whether the consent process will be documented by a signature from subjects.

No subjects will provide a signature as documentation of consent.

0440

For subjects who will not sign consent, is the research minimal risk and involves only procedures which do not require written consent outside of a research study?

Yes

Protocol Attachments

Select **+Add Line** to add each attachment
Select **Replace** to replace an existing document

Attachment Type
Data Collection Instrument
Attachment
CIP SSE QUESTIONNAIRE.DOCX
Description

Attachment Type
Informed Consent Statement
Attachment
CONSENT STATEMENT.DOCX

Description**Attachment Type**

Other

Attachment[PERMISSION FORM.DOCX](#)**Description**

This form will be customized with details from each prison, signed by officials from the Department of Corrections, and uploaded in an Amendment for IRB to have on record. College-in-Prison programs will not be able to participate in the study without this form on record.

Attachment Type

Recruitment Materials

Attachment[STUDENT RECRUITMENT.DOCX](#)**Description**

This template will be used by college-in-prison officials to provide information to students eligible to participate in the study.

Attachment Type

Other

Attachment[ADMINISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS.DOCX](#)

Description

This document will provide guidance for prison-in-college officials to pass along recruitment information as well as administer and collect surveys from students.

Attachment Type

Other

Attachment

[CIP SSE SITE DETAILS.XLSX](#)

Description

This document will include details about the research site as sites are added: correctional facility, CIP name and contact person, as well as Department of Corrections contact information.

Administrative Details Form

Protocol Details

9031

Protocol Type
Expedited

Billing Account #

Study Status

Submission Details

9000

Submission Review Level
Expedited

9030

Expedited Category. Check all that apply.

Category 7: Survey, interview, focus groups, human factor, group behavior or characteristics

9002

Criteria for Approval. Select to confirm.

Approved: The criteria for approval of the research are satisfied in accordance with IU HRPP Policies, and applicable federal regulations.

Protocol Determinations

9003

Protocol Level of Risk.

Minimal risk

9020

Is renewal required for this research?

No

9004

Check all determinations that need to be made.

Informed Consent Waiver

Vulnerable Population

9005

Informed Consent Waivers

Waiver of documentation of informed consent granted in accordance with IU HRPP Policies.

9011

Identify population(s) involved in this research.

Prisoners

9018

Involvement of Prisoners. Choose all that apply.

The involvement of prisoners in the research is appropriate in accordance with IU HRPP Policies.

9028

Other Determinations.
