

Big Issue:
**Most people in
prison go back
home to their
community
without job
training**



Big Issue:
**Texas employers complain they cannot get enough training
and willing workers in their community.**

Big Issue:

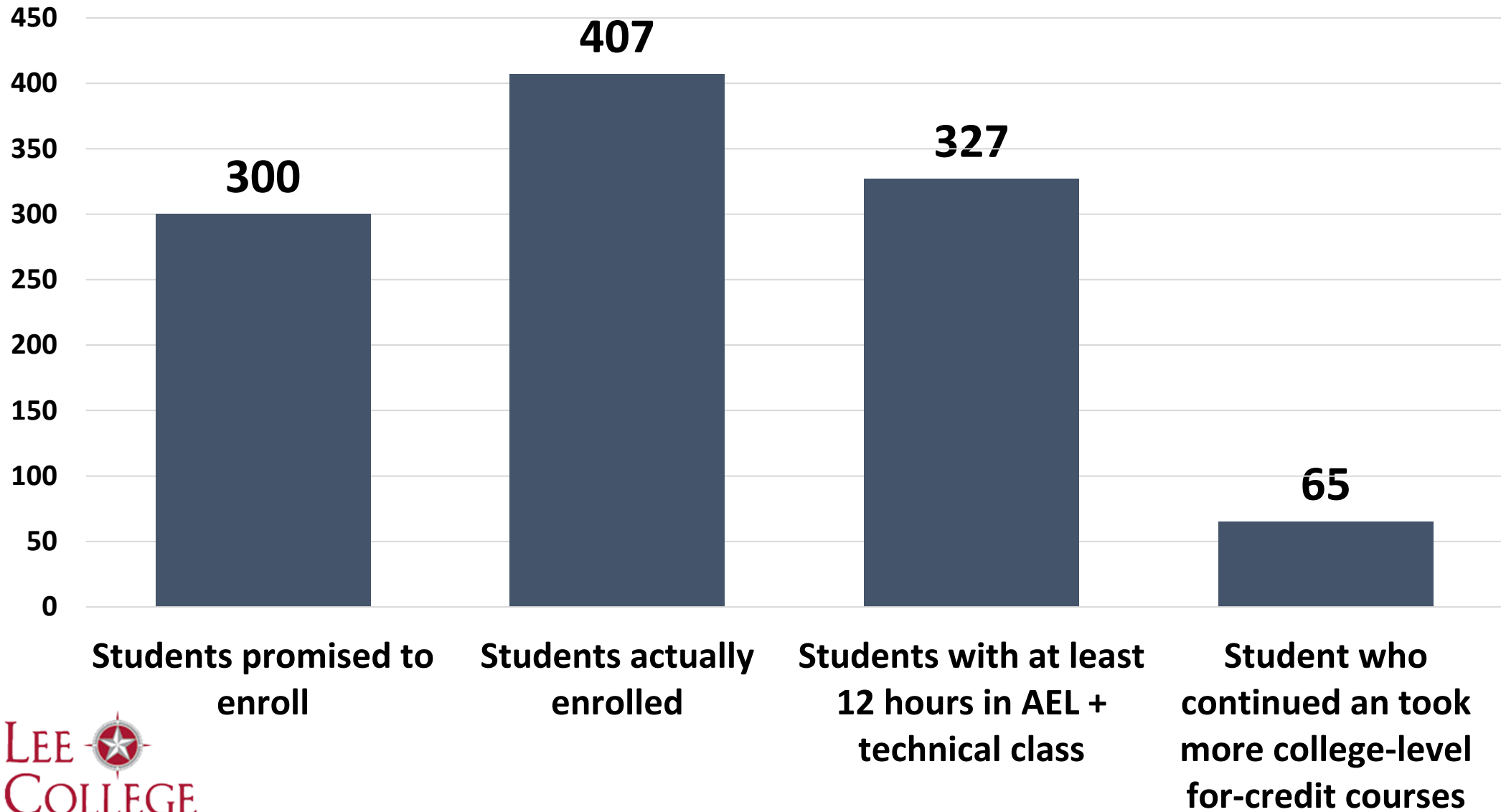
**Too many
willing
students**



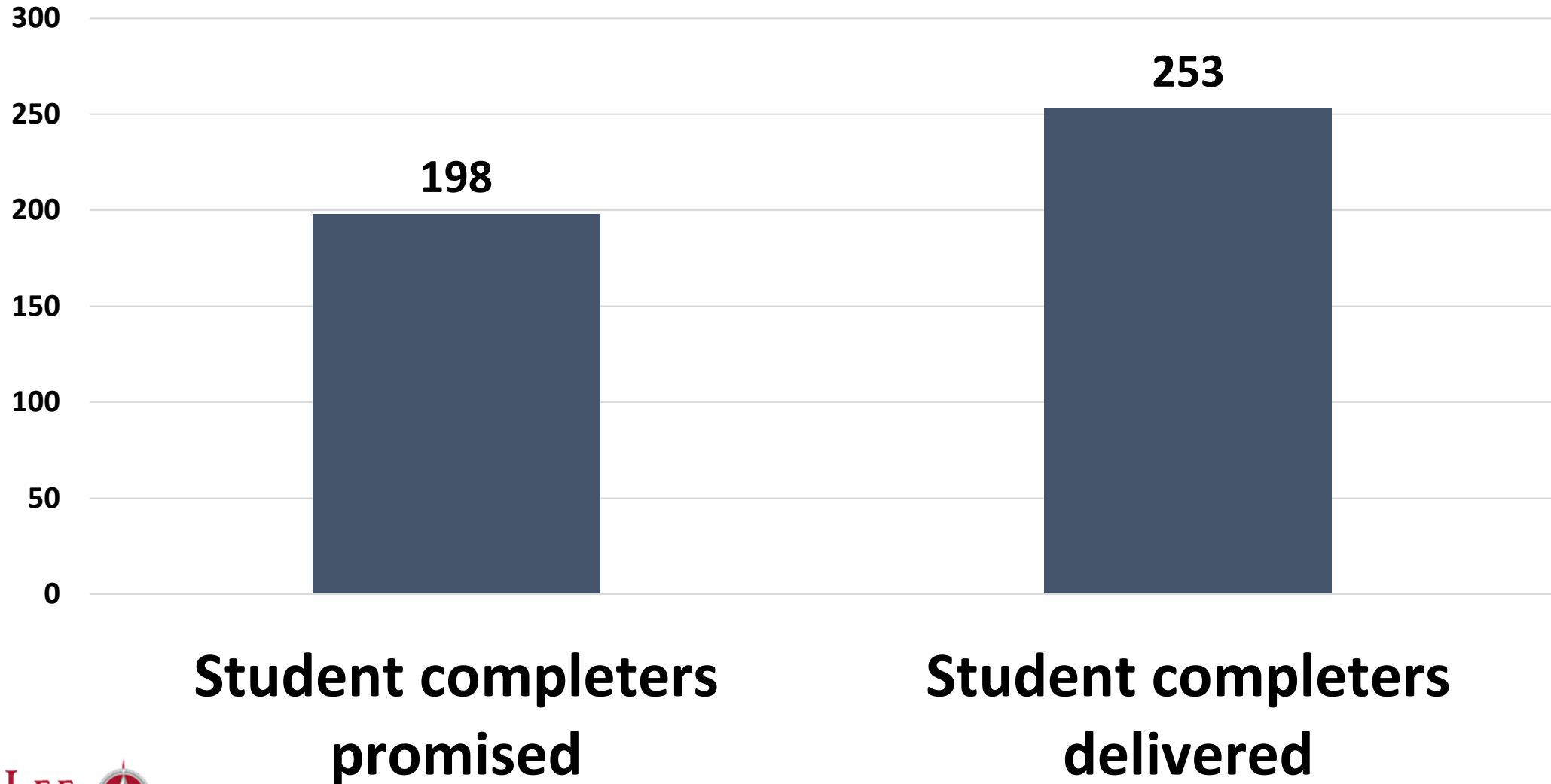


Lee College – Prison education since 1966

Accelerate Texas AEL/IET training grant - 2019 to 2021



Accelerate Texas AEL/IET training grant - 2019 to 2021



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Preparing for class



Day With Husbands



Day With Mom



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**Employers in
the classroom**







Integrated Education and Training inside prisons to serve men and women returning to your community

Technical certification classes

- Classes
- Truck driving
- Welding
- Computer networking/web design
- Horticulture
- Carpentry/Cabinetmaking
- Logistics
- (Auto mechanics possible for next IET program)

Adult Education tutoring classes

- Reading
- Math
- Language

TABE 11/12 test at start and end

Workforce presentations (Re-Employment and Re-Entry)

Stressing using and registering with Workforce Solutions offices to be tracked by state labor department
(Texas Workforce Commission)

Integrated Education and Training inside prisons to serve men and women

Key Attributes as IET program students get:

- **Access to Lee College computer lab for computer literacy skill building**
- **Access to peer tutors**
- **Access to Lee College research librarians**
- **Access to Re-Entry specialist (Dr. Brandon Warren)**



Students earn for-credit college hours so are one-third to one-half the way to completing an Associate's of Applied Science degree

Lee College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges





Benefits

Challenges

Lots and lots of potential students

Limited potential instructors

Cheap marketing (flyers, newspaper articles in prison newspaper)

Limited message, cannot explain all aspects of technical + AEL + PIRL + prison

Create new degree-seeking students

Classroom space limited

Captive audience

Limited control of student access, classrooms, testing

Low overhead

Limited control of student access, classrooms, testing

Funding available

Ex-offenders have many needs – they don't have income, also do you have somebody who can handle their unique needs

Teaching extra rewarding

Alumni tracking extra challenging

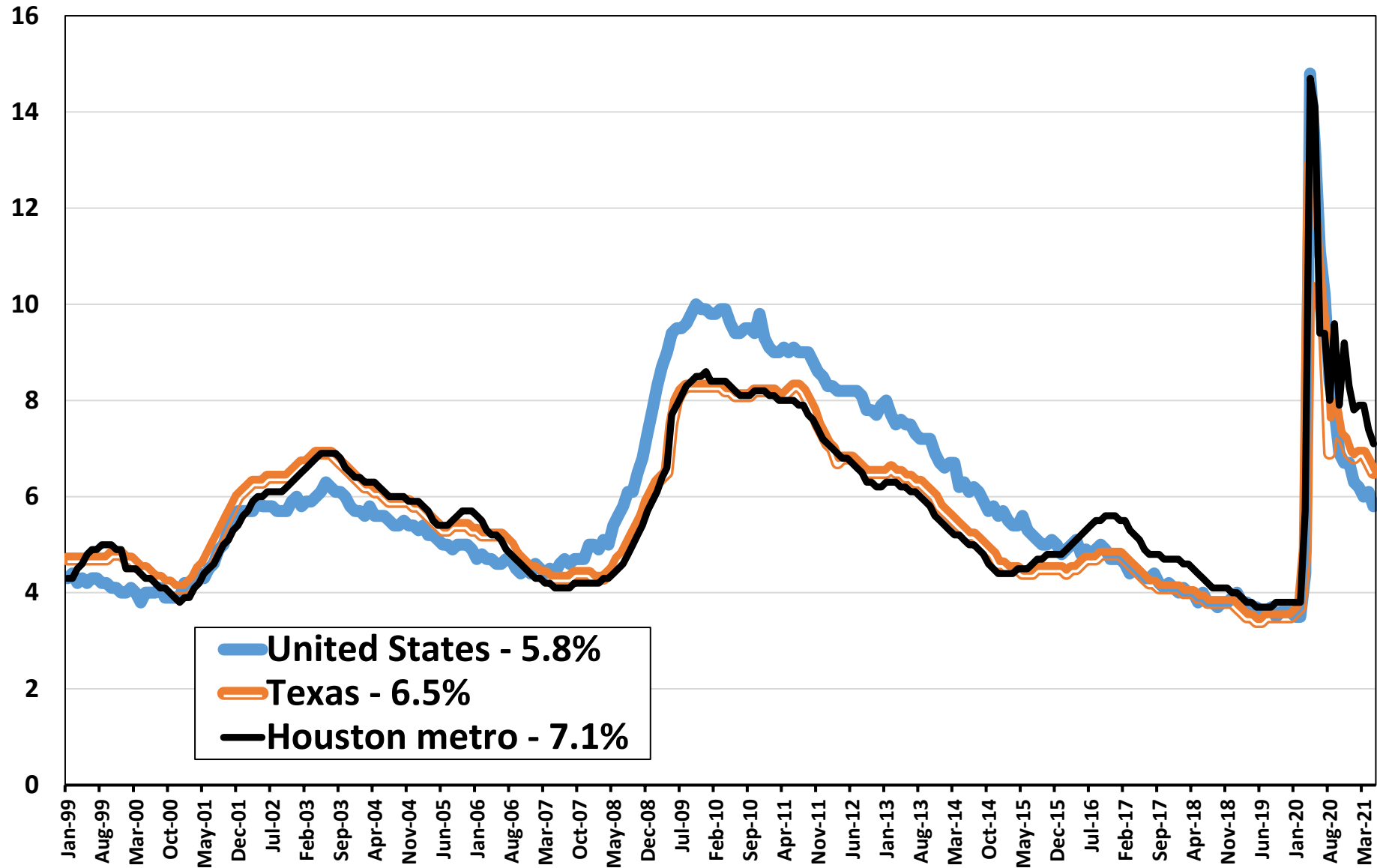


**Most people in prison never get to touch a computer.
Prisons in Texas do not allow internet access.**

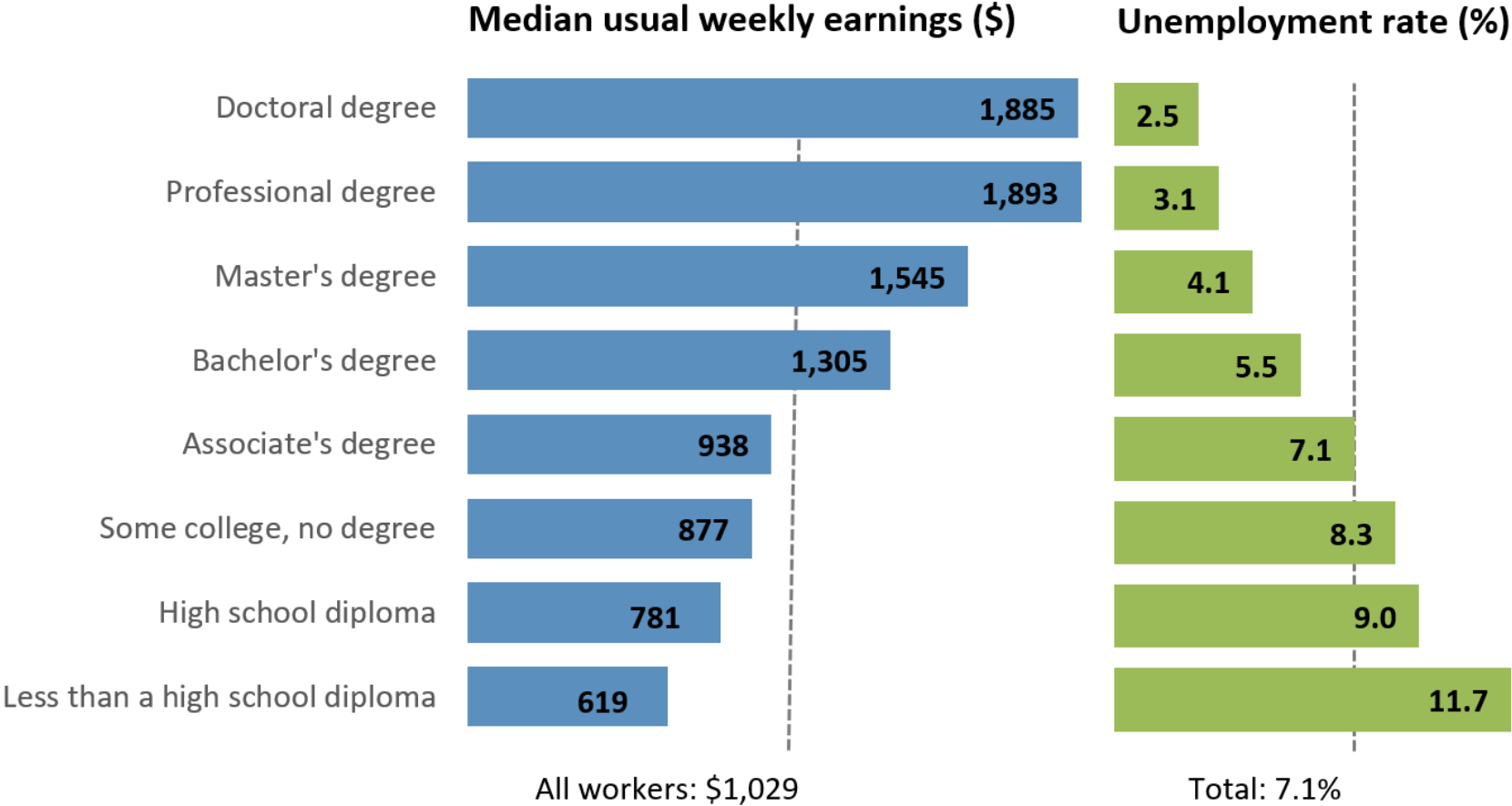


FYI: No cell phones in prison

Unemployment rates

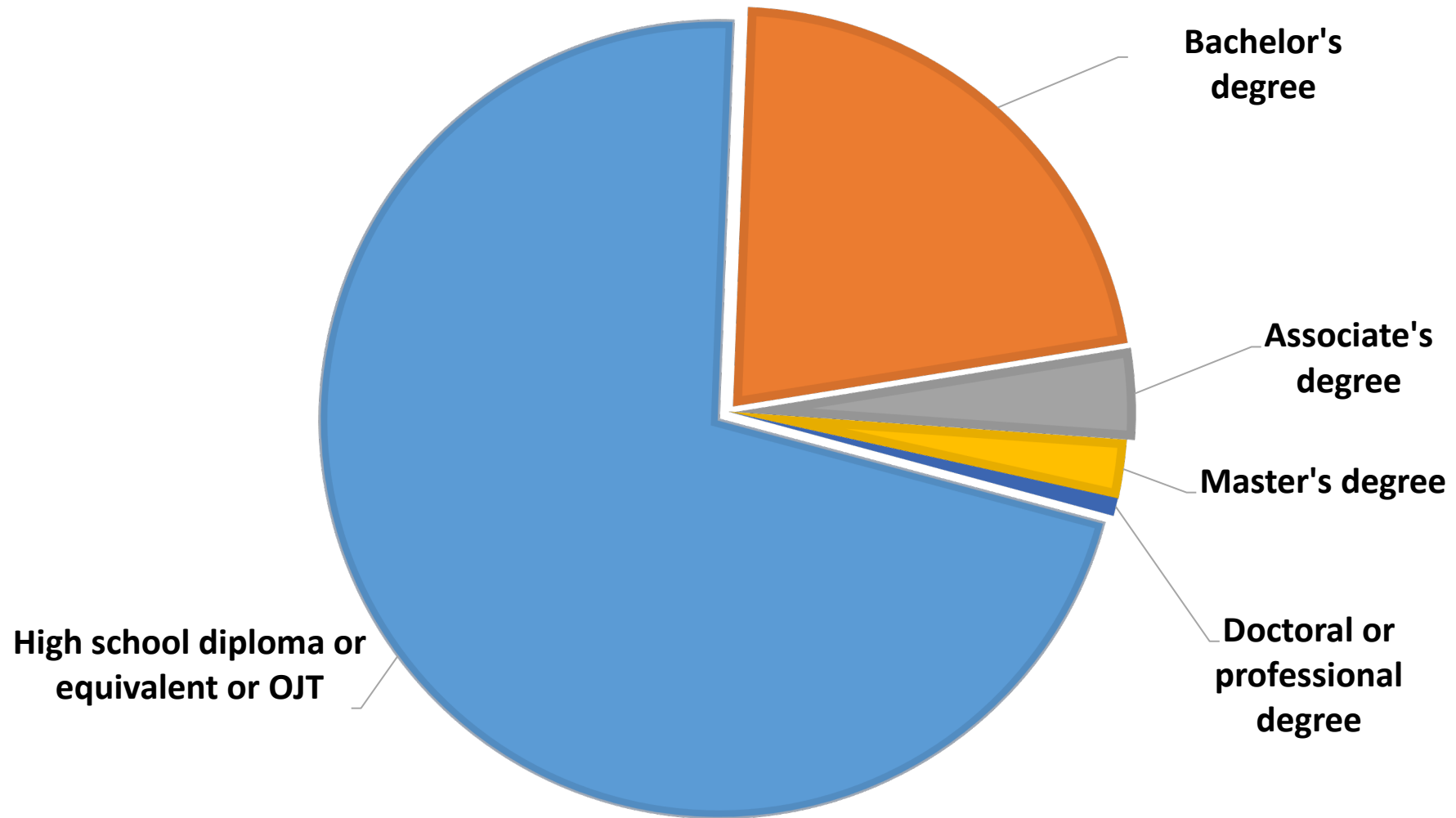


Earnings and unemployment rates by educational attainment, 2020

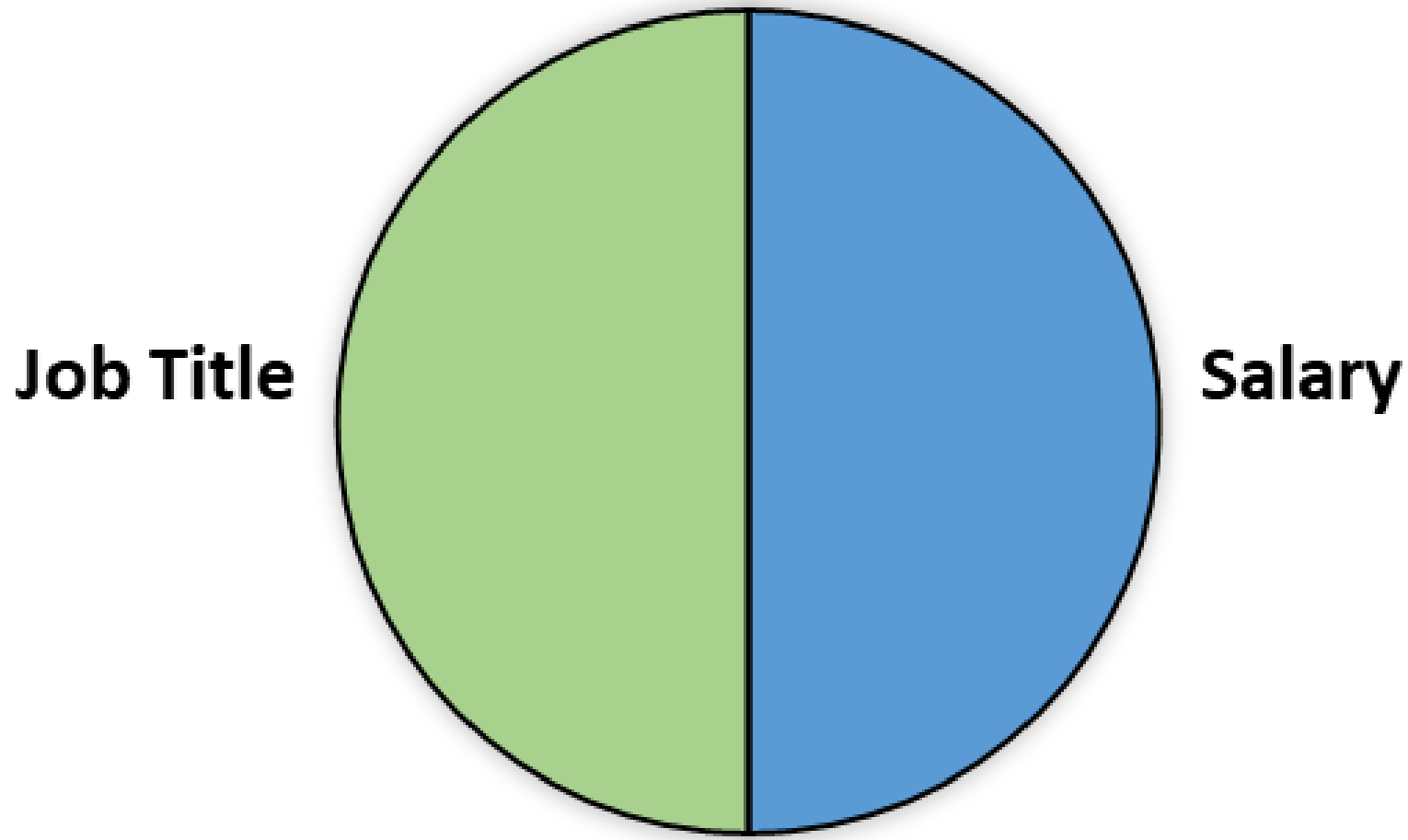


Note: Data are for persons age 25 and over. Earnings are for full-time wage and salary workers.
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey.

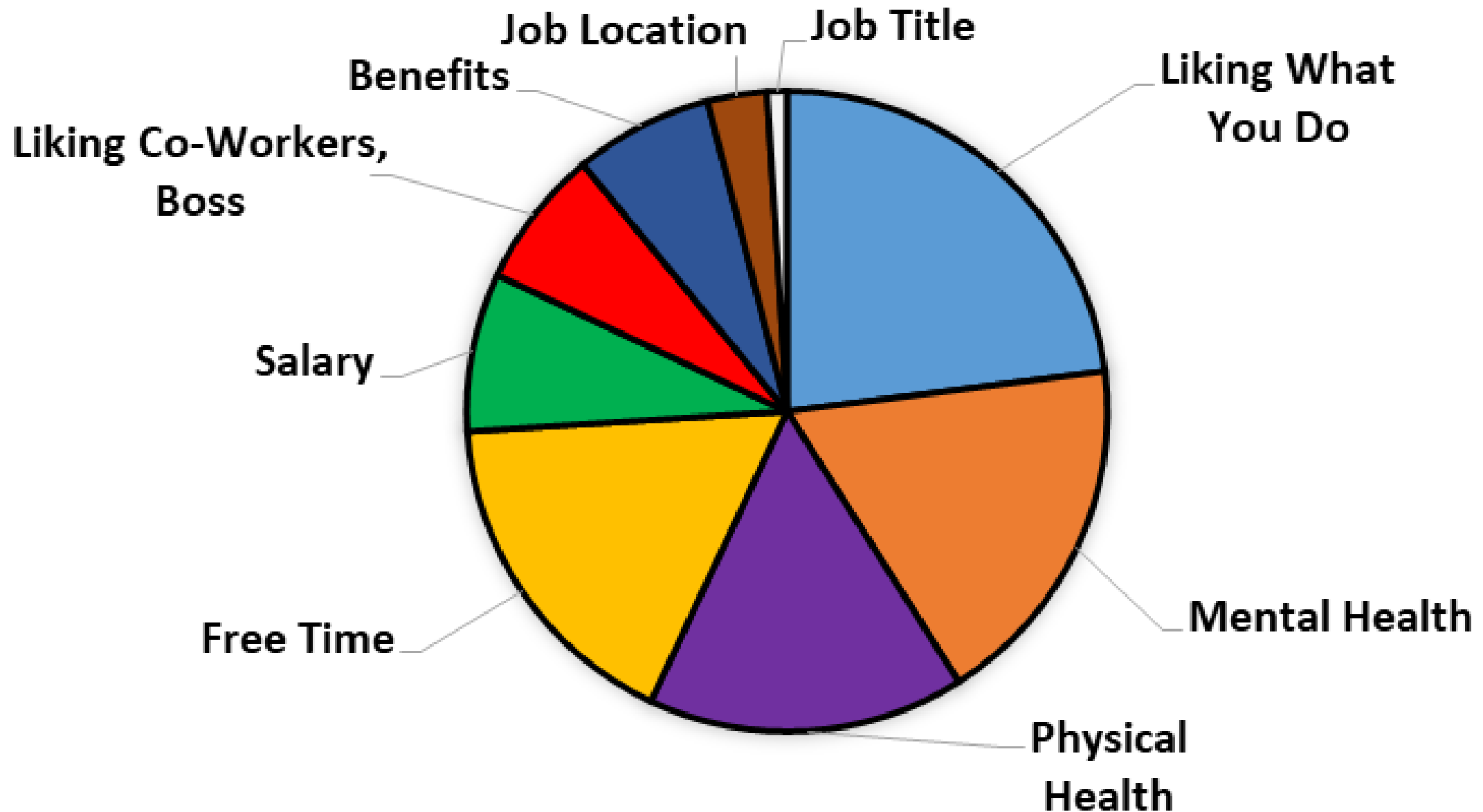
Texas Jobs Market



How We Usually Measure Career Success



A Better Measurement



Consider

Get feedback ahead of time from local workforce board (will raise warning flags but also refer employers, grants, targeted occupations – your workforce board and Workforce Solutions offices *will* help in many ways)

Engaging new employers (many CEOs get a thrill out of visiting a prison class)

Understand the physical setting, what the warden and guards expect

Are the HR directors in your community willing to enter the prison gate

Support personnel needed (counselor, adviser, career navigator)

Is your college or school willing to take ex-offenders and help them enroll

Are your college or school's administrators going to support this

Are your instructors and advisors going to be serious

Overcoming fear



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Former First Lady Laura Bush reviews the horticulture program at Ellis Prison in Huntsville. This program includes the “Water Willow Project” that helps preserve Lake Livingston, the critical water source for the Houston metro area.



Company truck driving recruiters come into the Wynne Prison in Huntsville to have students fill out job applications.



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As an incarcerated young man, Brandon Warren earned an associate of arts in humanities from the Lee College Huntsville Center in May 2004. He left prison for the final time in November 2004. Since then he has earned a bachelor's degree, master's degree, and as of this month a doctorate degree in education in ethical leadership from the University of St. Thomas in Houston. He has worked full time inside the Texas prison system as an administrator and adjunct professor for two college programs in prison. Today Dr. Warren works for the Lee College Huntsville Center as a full-time transition specialist helping the students find employment and continue their education upon release as well as working as a professor of philosophy. Dean Donna Zuniga brought Brandon into Lee College and has expanded the academic and technical education opportunities across eight Texas prisons for men and women.



Accelerate Texas Scholars IET training program

College Prep & Literacy Tutoring

- Initial TABE 11/12 test for baseline skills assessment in reading, math and language
- At least 40 hours of College Prep class to improve reading, math and language skills
- Second TABE 11/12 test to measure improvement gains.

Re-Entry & Re-Employment seminars

- Students attend seminars by the Lee College re-entry specialist (who is a Lee College professor who once served time) and discusses the Big 3 Challenges of the Free World with 1) Finding Housing, 2) Finding Transportation, and 3) Finding a Job
- Students attend seminars by the Lee College Workforce Director who discusses job search methods and how to use a Workforce Solutions office. Students also practice filling out job applications and making a resume.
- Students practice job interviews with Texas employers that hire ex-offenders.

Technical Classes

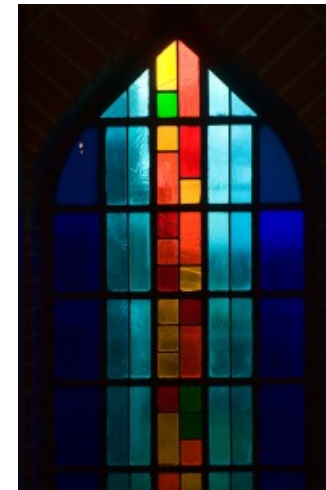
- Enrollment in Lee College vocational education classes (for-credit classes that students will earn college credit)
- Students will complete an industry-recognized certification at end of class semester.



Lee College alumnus Darius Monroe with TDCJ ID card (above) with boss Spike Lee (left) and with Dean Donna Zuniga and academic Chairman Paul Allen (right).

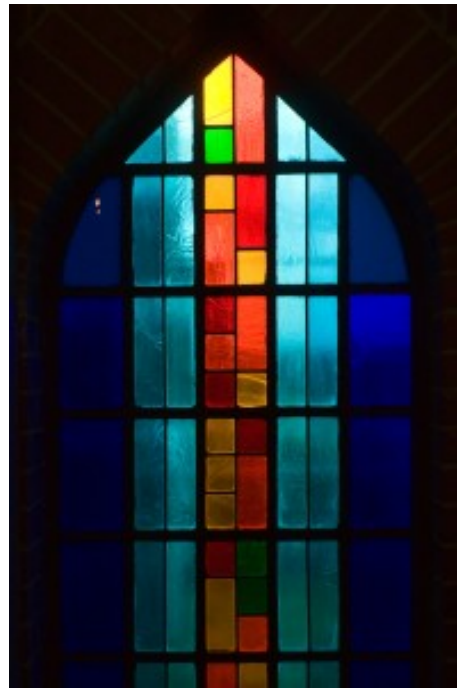


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find redemption
through education.**





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Lee College Huntsville Center

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Lee College Huntsville Center alumni website at: <https://lchcalumni.com/>

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- Paul Allen — Academic Division Chair (pallen@lee.edu)
- James Langley — Technical Division Chair (jlangley@lee.edu)
- Felix Buxkemper — Counseling Director (fbuxkemper@lee.edu)
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