



# 2024 ECMC Foundation Fellow Postsecondary CTE Research @ Old Dominion University

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## Jessica Griffin

Postsecondary Career and Technical Education Research  
Dissertation Research Fellow

**Bio.** Jessica Griffin currently serves as the Director of Continuing Workforce Education within the Division of Workforce Development at Tallahassee State College. Within her role she focuses on adult basic education and workforce development. She is a graduate of Florida A&M University and Nova Southeastern University. Additionally, she is currently entering her third year in the Higher Education Doctoral program at Florida State University. Griffin has garnered over 18 years' experience in education with 13 years of this time being spent in higher education in both private and public sectors. She dedicates herself to assisting others in reaching greater heights through meaningful educational experiences. Currently, her research interest include career and technical education and the post-secondary educational experiences of justice involved populations. She also has deep interests in understanding the experiences within academia of Black doctoral women.

**Project.** The United States has the highest incarceration rate globally, with over 1.9 million people confined. Prison education programs (PEPs) are vital for reducing recidivism and promoting rehabilitation. Participants in PEPs are 43% less likely to reoffend within three years, and every dollar spent saves five in reincarceration costs. This study explores the motivations and decision-making of formerly incarcerated individuals who pursued Career and Technical Education (CTE) while incarcerated. Guided by Possible Selves Theory, it examines how these experiences influence behavior change. Findings aim to inform policymakers and enhance educational opportunities, aiding successful reintegration and breaking the cycle of incarceration.



Research Sponsor: Stacey Rutledge, Ph.D.  
Professor and Department Chair,  
Department of Educational Leadership & Policy Studies  
Florida St

## The Program

Fellows will be part of a community that participates in two national research training institutes, research methods webinars, works with CTE research mentors, and conducts postsecondary CTE research.

Applications for the 25-26 Postsecondary CTE Research Fellows will be available 1/15/25 and due 4/1/25.

<http://ctereseearchfellows.com>

"We have designed this CTE Fellows program to provide scholars with the unique opportunity to be part of a community and a formal curriculum to develop their research skills while working toward improving the field of CTE."

— James Bartlett II, Ph.D.

## For more information contact:



James E. Bartlett II, Ph.D.  
jbartlet@odu.edu  
Twitter @drjamesbartlett  
919-208-1697



Michelle E. Bartlett, Ph.D.  
mbartlet@odu.edu  
Twitter @drmbartlett  
919-208-1700