

Pennsylvania Department of Corrections: www.cor.pa.gov

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About the Organization: The Pennsylvania Department of Corrections is responsible for overseeing the operation of:

- 26 state correctional institutions, including one motivational boot camp
- 14 community corrections centers and contracts with almost 50 contract facilities
- A Training Academy, located in Elizabethtown, PA
- Approximately 15,000 employees and roughly 46,000 inmates

It is important to note that DOC does NOT oversee county prisons; it is also important to note that parole is governed by the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole, a separate entity.

Workforce Services for Inmates:

- All inmates are TABE tested upon incarceration
- Any inmates without a GED/high school diploma or equivalent is required to attend 300 hours of academic programming.
- Inmates may enroll in vocational courses; course offerings vary depending on prison
- Work opportunities exist through inmate employment and through Correction Industries
- 12 institutions currently have Transitional Housing Units, or THUs, to assist inmates in reentry. Additional reentry workshops, including resume assistance, are offered through the THUs

Services for the Business Community/Referrals:

The Bureau of Community Corrections, part of DOC, administers the Re-entry Services Invitation to Qualify contract, which includes workforce development as one of its 11 Re-entry service lots. Reentrants from DOC facilities are referred to these providers for services that are fully funded by the DOC. The BCC has also worked to have a staff member at each site trained in Offender Workforce Development Specialist (OWDS) and Retention Employment Specialist (RES) to further assist reentrants in employment opportunities.

Contact information: Inquiries from those attending the WIOA sessions can be referred to the above-listed individuals; all other inquiries should use the DOC website for more information: www.cor.pa.gov