



# Rehabilitation

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Division of Rehabilitative Programs  
Tanya Rothchild, Director (A)

# Today!



## The GED Process Gets a Facelift



## DVI Returns to Its Roots to Prepare Inmates for Life After Prison

The General Education Development (GED) exam is used as an alternative for a high school diploma worldwide. In January 2014, the GED examination will begin changing from its current form, a paper and pencil-based exam, to a computer-based exam. As a result, CDCR inmates will be impacted in the way they prepare for the exam. Currently, the exam includes five subtests which cover materials in the areas of English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and Writing. The new 2014 computer-based exam will be reduced to four subtests; the English and Writing subtests will be combined into a Language Arts test.

CDCR has been preparing for the change to computer-based GED testing since September 2012. The Office of Correctional Education (OCE) is purchasing GED test preparation materials to help inmates prepare for the new exam.

In addition, laptop computers have been ordered for each institution to administer the test to inmate students. To accommodate the computer-based exam, CDCR has obtained computer carts for storing, charging, and transporting the laptops to designated GED testing rooms on various yards at the institutions. Tables/computer desks and special software will also be obtained to help inmates increase their computer skills and prepare them for taking a computer-based exam.

OCE is currently working on establishing a contract for administering and scoring the new exam. Stay tuned for more information!

For more information, contact: **Jim Cripe**,  
Supervisor of Correctional Education at:  
(916) 324-4496 or by email at: [jim.cripe@cdcr.ca.gov](mailto:jim.cripe@cdcr.ca.gov)

Deuel Vocational Institution (DVI) is in the process of transitioning from a primary function as a reception center back to its original mission as a career technical institution. Inmates will now receive hands-on career technical training and the opportunity to receive national certifications while they are serving out their sentences. The following programs have recently been implemented:

- **Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC):**  
An 18-month program teaching the installation and repair of home and commercial heating and ventilation systems.
- **Computer Literacy:**  
A six-week computer course that teaches inmates the basics of Microsoft programs; computer skills needed upon release.
- **Auto Body Repair and Paint:**  
Over the course of 12-18 months, inmates will learn the skill of repairing and upgrading vehicles, body parts, and customization requests.
- **Building Maintenance:**  
Teaches inmates the basic skills in plumbing, electrical, construction, painting, and roofing. Individual certifications are available for each construction trade throughout the three-year program.

National certification for the HVAC and Building Maintenance Programs is available through the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER). The NCCER program is an international program that is used by many of the major construction industries.

**Want to know more about this program?**

Contact R. Allen Baraldi, Principal at: 209-830-3822 or by email at:  
[ralph.baraldi@cdcr.ca.gov](mailto:ralph.baraldi@cdcr.ca.gov)

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## Cal State San Bernardino Partners with CDCR to Break the Prison Cycle

Day Reporting Centers (DRCs) help parolees reintegrate into their communities by providing support services such as educational classes, job placement, parenting, substance abuse counseling, and cognitive-behavioral courses. CDCR funds the Cal State San Bernardino Reentry Initiative (CSRI) with a three-year contract which is administered by Cal State San Bernardino. To date, CSRI has also received more than \$988,000 in-kind donations from various community members and non-profit organizations (in the form of professional clothing, computers, training, volunteer time, etc.). The mission of the center is to increase public safety and reduce recidivism through highly structured supervision and monitoring of ex-offenders.

The center, which opened in February 2011, is the only facility of its kind to be operated by a university and provides all the services a parolee might need under one roof. The clients, who are there by choice but referred by their parole agents, are expected to attend every day for classes, job placement skills, and fulfilling the terms of their parole. CSRI creates an Individual Treatment Plan for each client and offers a wide variety of classes and counseling. Data from CSRI states clients remain in the program for an average of six months and just 16.1% of them have returned to custody, compared to a statewide average of 65%. Of the 1,670 individuals referred to the center since 2011, 713 have received services and 195 have found jobs!

CSRI is currently located in the city of San Bernardino, which is second only to Compton in terms of parolees per capita. Because of CSRI's success, CDCR's Office of Offender Services has entered into a new, broader contract that will create sites in Victorville and Riverside as well. Keep up the great work!

For more information, contact Carolyn Eggleston, PhD. at: 909-327-2981 or: [ceggleston@CSRIcenters.org](mailto:ceggleston@CSRIcenters.org)



## FOTEP Serving Women and Children

The Female Offender Treatment and Employment Program on Treasure Island (FOTEP TI) in San Francisco is a healthRight 360 program that serves women from Parole Region II who are paroling from state prisons, have substance abuse and trauma issues, and are interested in reunifying with their children. The program has the capacity to serve 63 adult women and 15 children, ages 0-12.

FOTEP TI provides a gender responsive trauma informed substance abuse treatment community. The focus of the program is on issues specific to needs of female offenders; trauma, relationships, communication, parenting, family reunification, relapse prevention, development of pro-social behavior, the exploration of issues which drive substance abuse and criminal behavior, and educational and vocational preparation. Women with mental health issues receive therapy on site, and referrals for medication evaluation at the local parole outpatient clinic (POC).

The Parenting Center on Treasure Island provides a variety of services to children and families. Women participate in parenting courses and simultaneously work with staff to implement the skills they have learned in the classroom. Children with behavioral problems receive individual treatment and family therapy. FOTEP TI will also refer to community organizations if further child mental health therapy is needed. Additionally, the program is a Child Protective Services (CPS) certified Parent Training program.

Women with literacy issues and those who do not have GEDs may attend school. Job readiness skills, vocational training programs and job placement services are provided through the healthRight 360 resource center. Additionally, case management is available to help clients locate both permanent and transitional housing. The goal of this program is to improve individual and family functioning, and help women to successfully re-integrate back into their communities.

During fiscal year 2012-2013, FOTEP TI honored 68 women with successful program completions as evidenced by their achievement of individualized treatment planning goals.

Interested in this program? Contact: Shaina K. Zura, MSW, Program Director at: [szura@healthright360.org](mailto:szura@healthright360.org)