



FY2008 RECOMMENDATION/FY08-GP23 EXPAND EXISTING APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS

Status: Partial Implementation

Actions/Updates

2012 UPDATE

The report addressing HB10-1112 may be found at http://www.doc.state.co.us/sites/default/files/opa/EducationReport_final_RE.pdf

2011 OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ACTION STEPS

The Department of Corrections is in the process of producing a report for HB10-1112. When the report is complete, CCJJ staff will provide a link on the Commission website.

2010 UPDATE

Implementation underway. Officials from the Department of Corrections report that, per DOC Administrative Regulation 500-01, its Division of Correctional Programs is addressing this recommendation. At this time, the DOC Education Director position is vacant. DOC will extend the action plan into the next fiscal year (FY2012) when the position has been filled. DOC staff from across the state attended Labor Market Information (LMI) Gateway training, conducted by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment. DOC then conducted training sessions for 100 participants in July 2009 at Pueblo, Mesa County and Denver County Workforce Centers . Moreover, DOC officials report that its community re-entry team collaborated with its technology staff to have a LMI Gateway link added to DOCNET, which is the Department's web-based intranet network.

The Department of Corrections also reports that it will attempt to expand the apprenticeship program during this fiscal year, FY11.

2009 ACTION/IMPLEMENTATION

The Department of Corrections reports a concentrated effort to increase the number of offenders in its apprenticeship programs statewide by working with the U.S. Department of Labor. It is coordinating with the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (Labor Market Information) to identify programs that correspond to the prevailing job market by July 2009. DOC's Education Division has set a goal to open 14 new apprentice programs in FY2010. Additionally, the Department of Corrections will evaluate current and proposed apprenticeship programs to determine delivery practicality, demand and wait-listing of programs by October 2009.

Finally, DOC will coordinate with the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and the U.S. Department of Labor to develop procedures that will ensure the consistent transfer of credits and hours by October 2009.

2009 IMPACT

The availability and capacity of current programs and the number of inmates who complete these programs will be tracked to determine the impact of this recommendation. DOC's Education Division reports that it currently has more than 240 offenders enrolled in apprentice programs for approximately 50 trades, and it takes an average of 3 years for an offender to complete an entire apprentice program.

2009 BARRIERS

The Department of Corrections reports potential barriers as funding for program expansion and timing/sequencing of program implementation.

Description

The Commission supports efforts by the Department of Corrections to expand existing apprenticeship programs.

Agencies Responsible

Department of Corrections, Department of Labor

Discussion

This recommendation supports existing efforts by the Department of Corrections. Research has confirmed that employment is necessary for successful transition to the community. This effort is consistent with the Commission's statutory mandate to "focus on evidence-based recidivism reduction initiatives..." [C.R.S. 16-11.3-103(1)].