

## Component: Education Programs

### Major Component Accomplishments in 2017

The Alaska Department of Corrections (ADOC) is providing education courses that empower incarcerated individuals for marketable employment upon release, addressing the educational criminogenic factor, reducing the barriers for returning citizens.

The Department of Corrections is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest contributor of successful General Education Development Diploma (GED) completions statewide and is expected to increase the number of GED diplomas for FY 2018. GED completions are an Education Division priority and we have partnered with all adult basic education providers statewide.

During FY-17, 112 offenders received their (GED) while incarcerated. This is an increase 14% from (98) FY-2016.

During FY-2017:

- 885 individuals received Adult Basic Education services as compared to 1,428 in FY-16.
- 749 individuals received services in the Criminal Attitudes Program; and 438 completed it. A 9% decrease in completions as compared to (485) FY-16.
- 376 individuals received services in the Anger Management Program; and 226 completed it. A 27% increase in completions from (178) FY-16.
- 1053 individuals received services in the Parenting Program; and 621 completed it. A 20% decrease in completions from (744) FY-16.
- 865 individuals received services in the Re-Entry program; and 462 completed it. A 14% decrease in completions from (528) FY-16.

There was an expected increase in offenders earning their GED since the agency increased its tutoring and prioritized its Administration of the GED Ready Test's. Increasing the Administration of GED Ready Tests enhanced the offenders' abilities to familiarize while navigating 7 different computer item types.

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|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Extended response | 5. Hot Spot         |
| 2. Drag-and-drop     | 6. Multiple Choices |
| 3. Drop-down         | 7. Short Answer     |
| 4. Fill in the Blank |                     |

Students also have to attend computer lab training in order to meet the benchmark typing skill of 40 words a minute in preparation to the timed GED tests.

Each institution provides offenders with education coordinators and the necessary materials to study for and complete the GED computer testing process. Offenders have the opportunity to obtain a GED diploma, however, in most cases this program is voluntary and/or the time an offender has to serve may be insufficient to complete all four tests impacting the offender participation while incarcerated.

However, the efficiency of the computer testing has allowed a better feedback and follow-up data collection system for offenders that do not complete all four GED tests while incarcerated. This capability has fostered greater state wide collaboration with regional testing sites to continue and complete the returning citizens GED testing.

GED completion is the benchmark for inmates to participate in Vocational certified resume building trade courses.