



Now That I'm Home, How do I Get a Job?

Holding a job is one of the best predictors of a parolee's success. Numerous statistical studies demonstrate a parolee who finds and maintains a steady job is more likely to avoid subsequent offenses and complete his or her term on parole. Therefore, the link between in-prison rehabilitation programs and employment is critical.

The California New Start – Prison to Employment program is designed to link offenders released from prison to jobs in their community and reduce their chance of returning to a life of crime. In order to prepare inmates for this successful transition, California New Start connects inmate rehabilitation programs to the labor market and jobs in the community.

Below is a quick start guide on your journey through California New Start:

- Contact your Agent of Record and request a 1502 Referral Form (CDCR Form 1502) to California New Start.
- Have your California Driver's License or Identification Card, as well as your Social Security Card readily available. These documents are necessary to receive employment in California.
- If you need assistance obtaining California Identification, please visit the California Department of Motor Vehicles website at: http://dmv.ca.gov/dl/dl_info.htm#idrenew. Various institutions offer services that will help you complete the necessary documentation.
- If you need assistance obtaining your Social Security card, please visit the Social Security Department website at: <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/online/ss-5.pdf>.
- Contact your local One-Stop Center and ask about the California New Start program. The employment specialist will schedule your initial appointment.
 - Find your local One-Stop Career Center by visiting: http://www.edd.ca.gov/Jobs_and_Training/pubs/osfile.pdf.
- At your first appointment, the employment specialist will collect your CDCR 1502 Referral Form and you will be asked to complete an individual employment assessment. This will help the employment specialist identify specific needs in order to better assist you in finding a job.
 - Once your needs are identified, you may be provided the following services:
 - Resume writing
 - Interview preparation
 - Job skill development workshops
- After the employment specialist has determined you are "job ready," you will begin receiving employment referrals and start interviewing!
- Job referral and placement services will be one of the final steps in helping you to gain employment. Stay focused and have patience. The job market is tough, but you're almost there!
- Once you start receiving job referrals, you will begin interviewing with various employers. At this point, it's all up to you! But don't worry, your employment specialist will be with you during the whole process in case you need assistance. Good luck and welcome to California New Start!