

INFORMATION SHEET

Office of Correctional Education



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Adult Basic Education (ABE) I, II, and III

The Office of Correctional Education (OCE) provides Educational Programs for incarcerated inmates/students. Inmates/students with reading skills below the ninth grade level attend Adult Basic Education. Adult Basic Education (ABE) is divided into class levels I, II, and III. These ABE programs are targeted to serve the academic needs of the inmate/student population. ABE provides opportunities for acquiring academic skills through an emphasis on English Language Arts and Mathematics. The Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) assessment is used to determine the initial placement of each inmate/student into an appropriate ABE level. ABE Classes are designed specifically for incarcerated adult students and are taught by teachers with current and valid credentials from the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing. Teachers provide inmates/students with interactive, engaging, relevant, and high interest instruction in the College and Career Readiness Standards.

The ABE I class are designed for inmates/students who have scored between 0.0 and 3.9 on the reading portion of the TABE assessment. ABE II is for inmates/students with a reading score between 4.0 and 6.9. ABE III is intended for inmates/students with reading scores between 7.0 and 8.9. To advance or promote from one level to the next, inmates/students must show competence of the College and Career Readiness Standards and/or achievement of an applicable TABE score. As inmates/students matriculate through the ABE program levels, classes become more rigorous and an increase in the depths of knowledge are expanded.

The ABE classes are designed to prepare the inmates/students for entry into a (High School Equivalency) program or a High School Diploma Program as pre-requisites are met. ABE programs are available to all populations through class assignments during the Classification Committee process and as a Voluntary Education Program that includes individualized instruction through tutorial support. In complying with penal code 2053.1 (2): "The department shall offer academic programming throughout an inmate's incarceration that shall focus on increasing the reading ability of an inmate to at least a 9th grade level.

Location(s): All institutions

Length of Program: Assignments and enrollments into this program are considered open entry/open exit. Inmates/students progress at their own pace, reflecting their effort and desire to learn.

Enrollment: Inmates are placed in the appropriate ABE class level according to their TABE reading score.

Eligibility Requirements: The Tests of Adult Basic Education (TABE) and Correctional Management Profiling for Alternative Sanctions (COMPAS) assessments are required for placement into educational programs. Priority is given to inmates determined to have a criminogenic need.

CDCR's Division of Rehabilitative Programs (DRP) manages adult inmate and parolee rehabilitative programs. Its top priority is to provide rehabilitative programming and life skills to offenders in an effort to reduce their likelihood of reoffending after their release from prison. DRP is comprised of the Office of Offender Services (OS), the Office of Correctional Education (OCE), and the Office of Program Accountability and Support (OPAS).

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