

INFORMATION SHEET

Office of Offender Services | In-Prison Programs



UPDATED: June 2015

CONTACT: (916) 327-3352

Step Down Program (SDP)

The SDP is an incentive-based, multi-step process that provides offenders placed in a Security Housing Unit (SHU) the opportunity to earn enhanced privileges by refraining from participation in Security Threat Group (STG) affiliations and behaviors. The ultimate goal of SDP is to release the offender from the SHU.

Those who participate in the Step Down Program may be eligible for the following:

- Interactive journaling
- Group facilitation
- Voluntary Education Program (VEP)
- Elective programming
- Pro-social videos

Location(s):

- California Correctional Institution (CCI)
- California Institution for Women (CIW)
- California State Prison, Corcoran (COR)
- Pelican Bay State Prison (PBSP)
- California State Prison, Sacramento (SAC).

Placement: Inmates currently serving a SHU term due to their STG affiliation shall be afforded a Departmental Review Board (DRB) hearing to determine the need for continued retention in SHU and placement in the SDP. Newly validated STG affiliates will be placed into the SDP based upon level of affiliation and demonstrated involvement in STG activities.

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).

#####