



**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
**Correctional Programs**



<b>Title:</b>	<b>Behavioral Change Programs</b>	<b>DOC Policy:</b>	<b>90.1.5</b>
<b>Effective:</b>	<b>8/1/25</b>	<b>Supersedes:</b>	<b>DOC Policy 90.1.4 effective 3/29/16</b>
<b>Applicability:</b>	<b>All functional units</b>		
<b>Directives Cross-Reference:</b>	<b>OAR 291-109 - Grievance Review System (AIC)</b> <b>OAR 291-077 - Performance Recognition and Award System</b> <b>DOC Policy 90.1.3 - Correctional Case Management</b>		
<b>Attachments:</b>	<b>Behavioral Change Programs Eligibility and Screening Criteria</b>		

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for providing behavioral change program interventions that are designed to address criminal risk factors and reduce the risk of future criminal behavior.

**II. DEFINITIONS**

- A. Adult in Custody (AIC): Any person under the supervision of the Department of Corrections (DOC) who is not on parole, probation, or post-prison supervision status.
- B. Behavioral Change Programs include the following:
  - 1. Cognitive Restructuring Programs: Skill-building programs designed to help adults in custody examine attitudes, values, belief systems, and thinking patterns that may lead to criminal behavior and replace these attitudes, values, belief systems, and thinking patterns with pro-social skills that may lead to successful reentry.
  - 2. Parenting Programs: Skills training programs created for criminal justice-involved parents and families. Programs are designed to help adults in custody acquire skills that may improve parent-child interactions, enhance family relationships, and replace anti-social parenting styles with pro-social skills that may promote healthy child adjustment and prevent problem behaviors with children.
- C. Contract Service Providers (CSP): Agencies or individuals under contract with the Department of Corrections to provide treatment and behavioral change program services.

- D. Program Designee: The department employee assigned the responsibility for oversight of an institution program that is not provided by a contractor.
- E. Pull Meeting: A process designed to develop a class master roster of adults in custody for placement in Department of Corrections programs. Some of the programs include Free Your Mind, Moving On (a program designed for justice-involved women), and Parenting Inside Out.

### **III. POLICY**

#### **A. Programs Planning, Coordination, and Oversight**

1. The Correctional Case Management Administrator shall have overall responsibility for the planning and coordination of all behavioral change programs throughout the department.
2. Correctional Case Management Administrator responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Planning for the department-wide placement of behavioral change programs;
  - b. Supervising the programs' delivery systems through the administering and monitoring of contracts with contract service providers;
  - c. Establishing and maintaining eligibility criteria for behavioral change programs; and
  - d. Developing prioritization criteria to be followed when demand for programming exceeds availability.

#### **B. Program Standards**

Behavioral change programs shall address a wide range of individual issues including, but not limited to, motivation and stages of change, criminal thinking errors, relapse, triggers, anger management, and emotional regulation. Programs may emphasize the interference of criminality with basic life functioning as well as appropriate parenting and pro-social interactions with the community.

1. Behavioral change programs shall utilize evidence-based curriculum and research-based practices in the delivery of program interventions to target criminogenic need.
2. Completion of Program: The Correctional Case Management Administrator shall develop and maintain program completion standard criteria to be used by all institutions with behavioral change programs.

- a. Program standards shall be defined in the contract agreements between the Department of Corrections and the contract service provider.
- b. The Correctional Case Management Administrator will review the program standards with each institution correctional rehabilitation manager by September 1 at the beginning of each biennium.

#### **C. Program Needs Assessment**

The department shall use evidence-based criminal risk factor assessments, behavioral screening tools, and a variety of research-based methods to assess an adult in custody's program needs for appropriate program placement.

#### **D. Programs Referrals, Eligibility Screening, and Placement**

Correctional Counselors shall review case plans according to established practices of effective case management and criteria from the Correctional Case Management Administrator to refer adults in custody to the contract service provider for placement in behavioral change programs following the pull meeting process.

#### **E. Program Refusals from Adults in Custody**

Adults in custody who are offered mandatory or required programs (for example, cognitive restructuring) must participate in programming as prescribed in their Oregon Corrections Plan. Those refusing to participate in a required program shall receive a program failure, which may result in failure to receive earned time credit.

Although program refusals generally occur prior to program entry, an adult in custody's voluntary exit from a required program shall also be considered a program refusal for purposes of program outcome data and will result in a program failure and failure to receive earned time credit.

#### **F. Behavioral Change Program Extensions, Suspensions, and Removals**

1. Behavioral Change Program Extensions and Suspensions: Behavioral change programs are not designed to provide program extensions or suspensions.
2. Behavioral Change Program Removals:
  - a. Administrative Removals: Adults in custody unable to continue participation in their behavioral change program due to no fault of their own (such as, medical or mental health reasons, insufficient time left, etc.) may be administratively removed from the program. An administrative removal shall be determined in accordance with the department's policy on Correctional Case Management

(DOC policy 90.1.3). Administrative removals will not prevent adults in custody from future participation in behavioral change programs.

**b. Program Failures:**

- A. Adults in custody failing to progress in behavioral change programs shall be considered a program failure. Program failures shall be recommended by the contract service provider program manager to the Correctional Counselor and multidisciplinary team for review, approval, and disposition in accordance with the department's policy on Correctional Case Management (DOC policy 90.1.3) and the department's rule on Performance Recognition and Award System (OAR 291-077).
- B. Adults in custody who voluntarily exit (sign out) from a behavioral change program shall be considered a program failure for the purposes of outcome data and earned time eligibility.
- C. A program failure may be issued to an adult in custody if their conduct makes them unavailable for programming when they were enrolled in the program.

**G. Program Failure Notification and Grievances**

**1. Behavioral Change Program Failure Notification to Adults in Custody:**

Adults in custody who receive a program failure from a behavioral change program will be notified in writing. The Measure 17 Coordinator, work programs assignment coordinator, or designee shall complete the program removal notification.

**2. Grievances for Behavioral Change Program Failures:**

Program Failures are generally not grievable in accordance with the department's rule on Grievance Review System (AIC) (OAR 291-109); however, allegations relating to unprofessional or misapplication of department policy, rules, or other directives are generally grievable under the rule. Adults in custody should consult with the designated Institution Grievance Coordinator regarding their particular circumstances.

**H. Monitoring and Evaluation of Programs**

The Correctional Case Management Administrator shall be responsible to monitor and evaluate program quality, adherence to evidence-based practices, and contractual compliance of the behavioral change programs.

#### **IV. IMPLEMENTATION**

This policy will be adopted immediately without further modification.

Certified: signature on file  
Julie Vaughn, Rules Coordinator

Approved: signature on file  
Michael Reese, Director

## ATTACHMENT

### Behavioral Change Programs Eligibility and Screening Criteria

Type of Intervention	Criteria for Screening			
	ACRS*	LS/CMI	WRNA	Other Considerations
Cognitive Restructuring Programs	≥ 0.15	1.7 Medium/High/Very High Pro-criminal Attitude or Orientation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program required on AIC's OCP?</li> <li>• Sentence Length – Is there enough time for the AIC to complete the program prior to release?</li> <li>• Stage of Change – At what stage is the AIC? Is the AIC receptive to programming?</li> <li>• Scheduling Conflicts – Are there programming or work assignment conflicts?</li> <li>• Review for AIC relationship conflicts between the AIC participants</li> <li>• Review for AIC safety – potential PREA or vulnerable AIC concerns (such as, sex offenders)</li> </ul>
	≥ 0.15	1.8 Medium/High/Very High Antisocial Pattern		
	≥ 0.15		4 & higher - Antisocial Attitudes 3 & higher - Antisocial Friends 4 & higher - Anger/Hostility 2 & higher - Family Conflict 4 & higher - Relationships Difficulty	
Parenting Programs	N/A			Counselor referrals prioritize: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AICs with open DHS cases (as verified by DOC counselor)</li> <li>• AICs with minor child(ren)</li> <li>• AICs who will be the grandparent or primary caregiver of minor child(ren)</li> </ul>

**\*Low-ACRS AICs may be considered on a case-by-case basis for enrollment in a behavioral change program and requires the approval of the Correctional Case Management Administrator.**

**ACRS** = Automated Criminal Risk Score  
**AIC** = Adult in Custody  
**OCP** = Oregon Corrections Plan  
**LS/CMI** = Level of Service Case Management Inventory  
**WRNA** = Women's Risk Needs Assessment