Graduated Reentry
Families, Sponsors, and Stakeholders

Successful reentry takes place when incarcerated individuals, corrections staff, community members, and families team up to develop and follow an Individualized Reentry Plan (IRP) from incarceration to the community.

We have a dedicated team of Corrections Specialist and Reentry Navigators across the state to serve the graduated reentry population.

Prepare for the upcoming transfer.
Understand that the first few hours following a transfer are just a small component of the process known as “graduated reentry.”

If possible, be there physically when the individual transfers.
Let them know they are not alone in the community. Do this even if the plan is to stay elsewhere.

Get involved with their personal transition plan/ know the details and the goals they want to achieve.
This plan will provide direction and support a healthy and productive transfer to the community.

Be realistic about the transfer.
Like any change, it takes time to rebuild and create a new normal.

Life happens.
The first few weeks are an adjustment period for all and challenges can arise. Adaptability is key.

Support.
The transition process is complex and any way that you can encourage and build on the individuals strengths creates a positive outlook.

Accessing local Resources.
Find out if there are services for the individual to take advantage of in your community that support a health reentry.

“America is the land of the second chance - and when the gates of the prison open, the path ahead should lead to a better life.”
~ George W. Bush

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Department of Corrections
WASHINGTON STATE

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What is Graduated Reentry?

In 2018 the Washington State Legislature approved SHB 2638 Graduated Reentry. This legislation allows incarcerated individuals an opportunity to serve an expanded portion of their sentence in work release (up to 12 months) and in the community on electronic monitoring (up to six months).

Successful reentry relies on positive support systems such as family, employment, education, and targeted treatment in order to reduce the likelihood of returning to prison.

The intent of Graduated Reentry is to improve public safety by targeting interventions and programs for incarcerated individuals’ successful transition into the community.

There are two ways someone can be placed on electronic monitoring:

- Expansion of work release to twelve months with up to the last six months being served in the community on electronic monitoring.
- Transfer to electronic monitoring up to the last six months of their prison sentence.

In either track, the incarcerated individual MUST have served a minimum of 12 months confinement in a state correctional facility.

Eligibility

Some of the requirements that must be met in order to be eligible include:

- Must have served a minimum of twelve months confinement in a state correctional or contracted facility (jail time does not count towards the one year confinement).
- Must participate in WA ONE risk assessment and then focus on employment, education, and programming based on an individual’s identified needs.
- A residence must be approved by the Department of Corrections prior to the incarcerated individual’s transfer to electronic monitoring.
- The Department will consider criminal history, nature of harm of offense, victim concerns, discipline, and participation in programming, treatment, and education while incarcerated.
- Participants must be six months serious major infraction free prior to transferring to GRE. Some infractions will eliminate consideration to participate in the program.

Not all eligible individuals will be enrolled into the program, enrollment is dependent on space availability.

FAQ

What is the Cost for Electronic Home Monitoring (EHM) to the individual?

DOC will cover the cost of EHM, however there must be an independent phone line in the residence.

How do we check the status on an individual?

You may reach out to the DOC website doc.wa.gov and check the GRE webpage or you can reach out to the GRE e-mail for specific questions docgraduatedreentry@doc1.wa.gov.

What does the screening process look like?

GRE receives a list of individuals based on the screening criteria.

Can GRE participants spend 12 months at work release?

The goal is for participants to complete 6 months of WR and 6 of EHM, although this could be different depending on each case.

What if the sponsor/person in the house they live with drinks or smokes pot?

The residence would not be approved, or if it occurs after the residence is approved and the individual has been transferred, the Reentry Navigator would then assist the individual in finding a new residence. If there is no other options the individual may be transferred back to prison to complete the remainder of their sentence.

Can an individual be sent back to prison?

Yes. If they are not in compliance with their required conditions.

Participants unable to secure housing may be eligible for rental voucher assistance for a period not to exceed six months.