What is Graduated Reentry?

In 2025, the Washington State Legislature passed ESSB 5219. This expansion now allows Washington State Department of Corrections (DOC) to transfer individuals onto electronic monitoring at an approved address through two different tracks.

Eligibility & Tracks

To be eligible for Graduated Reentry program, individuals must meet the following legislative criteria:

- Not be under the jurisdiction of the Long-Term Juvenile Board (LTJUVBRD)
- Not subject to civil commitment order
- Not part of the interstate compact for out of state releases (Track 1)
- Not subject to deportation order
- 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.

Eligibility & Tracks Continued

Track 1: Individuals who serve a minimum of 6 months in total confinement in a state correctional facility may transfer to a work release facility up to 18 months prior to release, with the final 9 months of their sentence served on electronic monitoring at an approved address. Individuals may transfer from a correctional facility to an approved address on electronic monitoring for the final 9 months of their sentence (no Reentry Center component). Estimated time frame for screening Track 1 individuals is roughly between 24 and 7 months to ERD.

Track 2: Individuals who serve a minimum of 3 months total confinement in a state correctional facility, may transfer to an approved address on electronic monitoring with up to 18 months remaining on their sentence. Estimated time frame for screening Track 2 individuals is roughly between 24 and 7 months to ERD.
Individuals on Track 2 must meet the following additional legislative criteria:

- Not serving a sentence for a sex, violent, or crime against a person

Substance Use Disorders

Access to Substance Use Disorder Treatment from DOC at Reentry: ESSB 5219 requires DOC to provide a substance use disorder (SUD) evaluation before transferring an incarcerated person to the Graduated Reentry program (GRE). DOC must assist a person with enrolling in treatment if they are assessed to have an SUD.

FAQ

How do you apply for GRE?
There is not an application process. Individuals meeting statutory requirements and DOC policy criteria will be pulled from a list to be screened. Not all eligible individuals will be enrolled into the program; enrollment is dependent on space and availability.

What does the screening process look like?
Individuals will be screened for eligibility by a Corrections Specialist 4 and placed into a GRE Track.

What is the cost for Electronic Home Monitoring (EHM) for the individual?
DOC will cover the cost of EHM, however there must be an independent phone line in the residence. If an independent line cannot be installed, the Department will work with the sponsor for an accommodation, if feasible.

FAQ Continued

What if I don't have housing? Will the department assist me?
The Reentry Division operates the Housing Assistance Program that provides housing options to incarcerated individuals. This includes financial assistance to individuals who are going to Graduated Reentry (GRE) and do not have an approvable release address for partial confinement. The level of service provided by the program is determined by the individual's situation and specific need. Services may be limited to simple housing referrals or include funding. The Department may provide a maximum benefit of $700 per month for a period up to six months after the initial prison release. The level of service provided remains at the discretion of the Department and is not an entitlement. To prevent releasing individuals from having direct access to the funds, payments are made directly to housing providers on behalf of releasing individual.

Can GRE participants spend 18 months at Reentry Center (RC)?
The goal for Track 1 individuals is to complete up to 9 months of RC and 9 of EHM, although this could be different depending on each case.

Can an individual be sent back to prison?
Yes. If they are not in compliance with their required conditions. Individuals on GRE are still serving confinement time. Serious infractions may result in return to total confinement.

How to I know what the rules and requirements are for GRE?
Individuals will be provided a handbook that outlines rules and requirements of the program.

FAQ Continued

What additional Reentry assistance is provided?
As referenced in policy DOC 350.200 Transition and Release, reentry planning will be coordinated for incarcerated individuals. Individual Reentry Plans (IRP) identify the reentry needs of the individual during three phases of reentry: Facility, Transition, and Community. Reentry staff are available to assist in resource navigation. There are numerous supportive community-based services being offered to enhance successful transition to the community. The IRP is driven by the individual.
There will also be a Reentry Team Meeting (RTM) held prior to transfer to GRE, which is a Reentry focused meeting to ensure a collaborative approach to identify needed resources, supports and crisis services for successful reintegration.

Contact Information

Additional Questions:
Submit a request through the
Public Correspondence Portal

Or Email:
DOC Correspondence Unit
doccorrespondenceunit@DOC1.WA.GOV

GRE Website:
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Department of Corrections
WASHINGTON STATE

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