

Education

Overview

The Minnesota Career Education Center (MCEC) is the name of the Education Unit with the DOC. Its mission is to prepare all offenders for college and/or a career. MCEC teachers are fully licensed and credentialed in their fields. On any given day, 2,400 offenders are enrolled in education at the Minnesota Department of Corrections (DOC). Approximately 73 percent of offenders have a verified high school diploma, GED, or adult high school diploma. In FY18, 587 offenders earned a high school, GED, or adult high school diploma. An additional 578 offenders graduated with a higher education career technical certificate or diploma, and another 31 students earned an Associate of Arts degree.

Leader in Adult Basic Education

MCEC's adult basic education (ABE) program is the second largest ABE consortium in the state, with students receiving about 800,000 hours of instruction each year. The DOC leads the state with over 400 graduates in the MN State Adult Diploma Program (ADP) since the diploma alternative was passed by the legislature in 2015. The ADP requires students to demonstrate competencies, through a variety of project and assessment options, in traditional areas of math, language arts, social studies, and science. In addition, they must demonstrate competency in employability and career awareness, and digital literacy. According to the GED Testing Service, the MN DOC ranks in the top five nationally among all state DOC's with its 89 percent GED test passing rate. The national average is 79 percent.

Pell Pilot

Three Minnesota colleges and Ashland University were selected to participate in the Pell Experiment program. The program will award Pell grants to a select number of qualified students. College and Minnesota Correctional Facility (MCF) partners, along with featured programs, are:

- Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College and MCF-Moose Lake: Clean Energy Tech Certificate;
- Pine Technical and Community College and MCF-Moose Lake and MCF-Rush City: Production Technologies Certificate;
- South Central College and MCF-Faribault: Mechatronics Industrial Maintenance Certificate; and
- Ashland University and MCF's Moose Lake, Shakopee, and Stillwater: Four-year bachelor's degree via tablet technology.

Second Chance Act Grant - Technology-Based Career Education

The DOC education unit has been awarded a Second Chance Act grant. Collaborative partners include: Ready for Success, Dress for Success, Metro Transit, EMPLOY, and Resource Inc. Offender programming funded by the grant includes training toward a Certified Production Technician (CPT) certification, completion of the nationally validated Manufacturing Skills Standards Certification (MSSC), and a Solar Panel Installation program which leads to the completion of a Solar Installer Certificate.

Industry Recognized Certifications

MCEC's Career Technical Education (CTE) programs are certified by Century College, and students are awarded industry-recognized certifications upon completion and passing of industry exams.

Industry-recognized certifications in MCEC CTE programs include:

- Manufacturing Skills Standards Council certifies the Machine Tool Technology program
- Certified SolidWorks Associate in the Machine Technology program
- National Center for Construction Education and Research certifies the carpentry, cabinet making, dry wall, heavy equipment operator, and painting/decorating programs
- C-Tech Corporation certifies the C-Tech Network Cabling program
- Minnesota Board of Cosmetologist Examiners and the Minnesota Barber Board award licenses to graduates from the cosmetology and programs

Adult Education Programming

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General Education	FRB	LL	ML	OPH	RC	SCL	SHK	STW	WR	Togo
Art Program						X		X		
English Language Learner Instruction	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
GED Diploma	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Digital Literacy	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
High School Diploma	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Library and Law Library Services	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Literacy/ABE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MN State Adult Diploma	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
Special Education Services	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Post-Secondary Career/Technical	FRB	LL	ML	OPH	RC	SCL	SHK	STW	WR	Togo
Barbering License Preparation						X				
Business Management	X									
Cabinetmaking	X									
Carpentry	X		X							
Computer Careers	X	X	X	X			X	X		
Computer Network Cabling		X	X							
Cosmetology License Preparation							X			
Drywall Installation	X									
Floor Covering	X									
Heavy Equipment Operator	X				X					
Masonry						X				
Mechanical Design and Drafting	X									
Production Technology								X		
Painting & Decorating					X					
Workplace Human Relations	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	

Faribault (FRB) • Lino Lakes (LL) • Moose Lake (ML) • Oak Park Heights (OPH) • Rush City (RC)
Shakopee (SHK) • St. Cloud (SCL) • Stillwater (STW) • Willow River (WR) • Togo (TOGO)

Post-Secondary	FRB	LL	ML	OPH	RC	SCL	SHK	STW	WR	Togo
A.A. Degree										
Inver Hills Community College	X	X		X			X	X		
Augsburg University	X	X		X			X	X		
Lake Superior College			X		X					
Second Chance Pell – Career Technical Education										
South Central College – Mechatronics Certificate	X									
Pine Tech and Community College – Production Technology Certificate			X		X					
Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College – Clean Energy Technology Certificate			X							
Second Chance Pell – Bachelor’s Degree										
Ashland University			X				X	X		
Second Chance Act Technology Careers Grant										
Manufacturing Skills	X									
Solar Panel Installation									X	
Enrichment										
Building Character			X	X	X			X		
Choir							X			
MN Prison Writing Workshop	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Parenting and Family Skills	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Reading is Fundamental (RIF) Program	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		

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Juvenile and Youthful Offender Education Programming

General Education	Red Wing	Lino Lakes
Adult Basic Education		X
Adult Diploma Program		X
Career Exploration and Transition	X	X
English Language Services	X	X
GED Preparation/Testing	X	X
High School Diploma	X	X
Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO)	X	
Special Education Services	X	X
Title One Services	X	
Career & Technical Education		
Carpentry	X	
National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) Certification	X	
Computer Literacy		X
C-Tech Certification Network Cabling: Fiber Optics Based Systems		X
Machine Tool Technology	X	
Manufacturing Skills Standards Council (MSSC) Certification	X	
Enrichment Programming		
Cognitive Skills	X	
CPR Certification	X	
Experiential Education	X	
Health	X	
Parenting	X	
ServSafe Certification	X	