



MALE DIAGNOSTICS AND CLASSIFICATION

Within the correctional system, the Georgia Department of Corrections (GDC) has approximately 50,000 male offenders housed in 30 state prisons, one medical facility, four treatment facilities, 12 transitional centers, and eight probation detention centers. Four private prisons house male state offenders. The diagnostic facility is located at Georgia Diagnostic and Classification Prison in Jackson, GA.

MISSION

The Georgia Department of Corrections protects the public by operating safe and secure facilities through the development of professional staff and effective offender management.

Timothy C. Ward, Commissioner
Ahmed Holt, Assistant Commissioner Facilities Division

INFORMATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

DIAGNOSTICS



OVERVIEW

- Identifies all pertinent needs of an inmate entering the prison system to hopefully meet those needs to prevent the inmate from returning to prison
- Conducted at Georgia Diagnostic and Classification Prison (male)

HISTORY

- GDCP opened in 1969 to complete the diagnostic process on adult male offenders
- Process was revised in 2009 to take approximately 15 workdays
- Project is underway to further revise and shorten the diagnostic process to approximately 3-5 working days to process male offenders and reduce the jail backlog more rapidly

OFFENDERS



POPULATION

- Diagnostic inmates arrive from the county jails Monday through Thursday (approximately 100 to 125 per day with available bed space).
- The Next Generation Assessment assigns initial security levels of minimum, medium or close; however, all diagnostic inmates are considered to be close security until they complete the diagnostic process.
- Diagnostic inmates receive one 2-hour non-contact visitation period per week on Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday (immediate family only) once they have been at the facility for 60 days.
- Diagnostic visitation is conducted from 9-12 am and 2-4 pm
- Diagnostic inmates usually transfer prior to being eligible for visitation if bed space is available.
- Upon transfer to their new facilities, Diagnostic inmates become permanent inmates, remaining at the new facility until they are released, or administratively transferred due to medical issues, behavioral issues or program needs.

SECURITY LEVELS



CLOSE SECURITY

Have staffing and physical security measures which are designed for the offenders listed below:

- Are escape risks
- Have assaultive histories
- Are considered dangerous and may have detainers for other serious crimes on file.
- May never work on an outside detail
- Require supervision at all times by a correctional officer.

MEDIUM SECURITY

Have staffing and physical security measures which are designed for the offenders listed below:

- Have no major adjustment problems
- May work outside of the prison, but must remain under supervision

MINIMUM SECURITY

Have staffing and physical security measures which are designed for the offenders listed below:

- Tend to abide by prison regulations
- Present a minimal risk of escape
- Have been judged to be a minimal threat to the community
- May work outside the fence under minimal supervision
- Assigned to this level are often cooperative and have no alcohol/ drug problem

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PROCESS

Offenders without disciplinary, medical, or mental health disorders usually complete the process in approximately 7-10 working days. Staffing includes a diagnostic director, correctional officers, doctors, nurses, counselors, mental health counselors, teachers, psychologists, psychiatrists, and clerical support staff. All offenders are screened for security threat potential, medical condition, mental health status, educational level, and treatment programs needed or ordered by the court for the inmate to complete.

INFORMATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

DAY 1

MEDICAL SCREEN

- Delouse
- Shower
- Locks received
- Hair accessories received
- Issue clothing and ID card
- Inventory property and medication

MEDICAL SCREEN

- Vital signs
- TB test and blood work
- Medical review

MENTAL HEALTH SCREENING/PREA ASSESSMENT

NEW ARRIVAL ORIENTATION

- Inmate Forms Completion
- PREA Assessment

HOUSING/BED ASSIGNMENT

DAY 2

MEDICAL

- Fasting lab blood work

DIAGNOSTIC TESTING AND ORIENTATION

- Initial interviews
- Reading test
- Culture Fair IQ Test
- WRAT4 testing - spelling and math
- Orientation videos: Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA), AIDS, Right to Know

DAYS 3-4

MEDICAL- AWAITING LAB RESULTS

FURTHER MEDICAL EVALUATIONS

DAY 5

MEDICAL

- Physical examinations
- Chest x-rays for positive TB results
- DNA/dental examinations
- Handwritten medical profile taken to medical records at end of day to be entered later

DAY 6

MEDICAL

- Profile entered

DAY 7

PAROLE

- Interview: self-report
- Personal History Statement may be entered this date or as late as one week later

DIAGNOSTIC PROCESSING

- Final interview
- Security reviewed
- Case plan completed
- Reentry completed by Diagnostic Counselor

DIAGNOSTIC DIRECTOR REVIEW

- Review and release inmate package (File sent to completed diagnostic queue for Central Office review. Inmate ready for transfer)

DAY 8

PENDING REVIEW FOR TRANSFER ASSIGNMENT BY CENTRAL OFFICE