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## **Two Department of Correction Buildings Earn Accreditation by the American Correctional Association**

Audits of the Department's Central Administration Building and Employee Development Center (EDC) in Dover were conducted on June 4-7, 2018 by the American Correctional Association (ACA) and accreditation was awarded at the ACA Summer Conference on August 4, 2018. ACA is a private, non-profit, trade association and accrediting body for the corrections industry. The organization was founded in 1870 and is one of the preeminent correctional organizations in the United States.

ACA accredits prisons, jails, community residential centers (halfway houses), probation departments, correctional treatment communities, and various other corrections facilities in the U.S. and internationally, using their independently published standards manuals.

The standards created and refined by the American Correctional Association represent fundamental correctional practices that ensure staff and inmate safety and security; enhance staff morale; improve record maintenance and data management capabilities; assist in protecting the agency against litigation; and improve the function of the facility or agency at all levels.

During the audit, independent ACA auditors reviewed policy, security, sanitation practices, and training courses. There were 109 total standards (13 mandatory and 96 non-mandatory) in the correctional training academy standards manual. EDC was found compliant with 12 and not applicable with 1 of the mandatory standards. EDC was found compliant with 92 of the non-mandatory with 4 not applicable. EDC received a 100% on the audit. The Central Administration Building, first accredited by the ACA in August 2015, successfully completed a re-accreditation audit with 100% compliance.

The Administration Building and EDC have received ACA accreditation which will last for three years. At the end of that period, the facilities will seek reaccreditation. During the next three years, the facilities will continue to work toward maintaining the policy and practices accredited during the audit.

The EDC joins nine other Delaware Department of Correction (DOC) facilities and units which have received accreditation status. The Central Administration Building is the first DOC facility to receive re-accreditation.



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