

NEWS RELEASE

Delaware Department of Correction
Commissioner Terra Taylor



Spring 2025 Citizens Academy takes you inside Delaware's correctional system

[Applications now being accepted](#) - Six weekly evening sessions start April 15 in
Georgetown

Georgetown, DE -- The Delaware Department of Correction (DOC) invites Delaware residents to participate in its Spring 2025 Citizens Academy program which begins April 15 in Georgetown. The DOC Citizens Academy is a free six-week program designed to give community members a look inside Delaware's largest law enforcement agency, see facility operations first-hand, and learn how the DOC's employes many partnerships, therapeutic treatment, and training programs to achieve its dual mission of public safety and rehabilitation. Citizens Academy participants meet with Department of Correction leaders, uniformed officers, and treatment and program providers and have opportunities to engage with individuals currently under DOC supervision. Weekly sessions feature a mix of informational presentations, interactive tours of a prison, community corrections facility, and Probation and Parole office, discussion and dialogue with correctional leaders, and the opportunity to engage with individuals under DOC supervision.

The Spring 2025 DOC Citizens Academy will be based in Georgetown over six weekly sessions that will take place on Tuesday evenings from 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. from April 15 through May 20. Sessions and tours will take place at the Sussex Community Corrections Center, Sussex Correctional Institution, and the Regional Probation and Parole office in Georgetown.

“The DOC Citizens Academy gives you the opportunity to see for yourself how our prison, community corrections, and probation systems operate, better understand how the Department of Correction impacts reentry and public safety, and be involved in strengthening the relationship between the DOC our local communities.” **Commissioner Terra Taylor said.** “Apply today and join us starting April 15 in Georgetown.”

The DOC is seeking applications from community participants age 18 and over. No corrections or law enforcement experience is necessary. Previous Citizens Academy participants have included small business owners, representatives from non-profit organizations, college students, medical professionals, teachers, retirees, and more. Class size is limited and interested participants must complete a short application and pass a simple background check that is attached [and posted online HERE](#). Completed

applications should be returned to Jason.Miller@Delaware.gov by March 24, 2025. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis beginning immediately until the Citizens Academy class is filled.

The DOC Citizens Academy seeks to strengthen public engagement with the DOC through access, information-sharing, and dialogue and to build partnerships with local residents. Sessions focus on a wide variety of topics, including officer and staff training, prison operations, probation supervision methods, medical care, substance abuse treatment, behavioral healthcare, vocational training and education, and the DOC's central role in Delaware's comprehensive reentry system. Participants gain a deeper understanding of how the DOC identifies - and addresses - needs and risks while individuals are under DOC supervision in order to support their reentry success and reduce Delaware's recidivism rate.

Members of the media are encouraged to attend and participate in Citizens Academy sessions.

Statewide, more than 4,000 individuals are currently incarcerated in Department of Correction facilities and approximately 10,000 individuals are currently being supervised by the DOC on probation or court-ordered pretrial supervision. Previous DOC Citizens Academy programs have taken place in New Castle, Sussex, and Kent Counties.

For more information and to submit an application please contact Jason Miller, Chief of Communications and Community Relations at Jason.Miller@Delaware.gov or call 302-379-4048.

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