



OAG

Office of the Auditor General

Report Summary

Performance Audit

Offender Success Vocational Programs

Offender Success Administration (OSA) Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC)

Report Number:
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MDOC's OSA oversees various vocational programs within the prisons and contracts for services in the community which focus on employment opportunities for individuals in the criminal justice system. OSA's mission is to create a safer Michigan by helping to hold offenders accountable while promoting their success. OSA had over 300 employees, including educators, school staff, institutional parole agents, specialists, and analysts, and was appropriated over \$124 million for fiscal year 2023.

Focus areas for OSA include providing offenders with vocational training while incarcerated and employment opportunities upon returning to society. Prisons offer multiple vocational programs for offenders to learn different trades and obtain State and national certifications. Examples of vocational programs include carpentry, cosmetology, electrical, and welding. OSA works to bring potential employers and talented candidates together with the goal of promoting employment and self-sufficiency. These efforts include educating employers on the benefits of hiring talented individuals who are justice-involved, as well as helping employers find candidates for positions within their organizations.

Audit Objective			Conclusion
Objective 1: To assess the sufficiency of OSA's efforts to evaluate the employment outcomes of offenders completing vocational programs.			Sufficient, with exceptions
Findings Related to This Audit Objective	Material Condition	Reportable Condition	Agency Preliminary Response
OSA should improve its identification, evaluation, and reporting of vocational program outcomes to assess the impact of vocational programs on maximizing offender success and reducing recidivism (Finding 1).		X	Agrees

Audit Objective			Conclusion
Objective 2: To assess the effectiveness of selected aspects of OSA's administration of vocational program enrollments.			Effective
Findings Related to This Audit Objective	Material Condition	Reportable Condition	Agency Preliminary Response
None reported.	Not applicable.		

Audit Objective			Conclusion
Objective 3: To assess the sufficiency of OSA's efforts to promote employment opportunities.			Sufficient
Findings Related to This Audit Objective	Material Condition	Reportable Condition	Agency Preliminary Response
None reported.	Not applicable.		

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Office of the Auditor General
201 N. Washington Square, Sixth Floor
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Doug A. Ringler, CPA, CIA
Auditor General

Laura J. Hirst, CPA
Deputy Auditor General