

**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL EDUCATION  
REPORT ON AGING POPULATION  
SEPTEMBER 2006**

DCE provides educational opportunities that enable youth and adults committed to correctional facilities to integrate successfully into the community as contributing productive citizens.

**The Number of Persons Served**

DCE offers educational services in adult correctional centers throughout the state of Virginia. A report was run to find out how many students age 65 and over were serviced in our adult schools during Fiscal Year 2006 and Fiscal Year 2005. The results were as follows:

**Fiscal Year 2006**

**Fiscal Year 2005**

<u>Ages</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Ages</u>	<u>Number</u>
65-74	101	65-74	119
75-84	9	75-84	11
85 & over	0	85 & over	0

The number of seniors who were eligible for academic services during Fiscal Year 2006 was 424 and the number during Fiscal Year 2005 was 418.

The report shows that there was a slight difference in the number of seniors who received educational services in Fiscal Year 2006 in comparison to Fiscal Year 2005. There was a decrease of 8.4%. But the reason for the reduction could be due to a number of reasons including inmates being released from incarceration, the DCE enrollment waiting list, and the transfer of inmates to other institutions.

**Agency Services**

Since we are an educational agency, the programs and services that we offer to seniors consist of a number of academic and vocational classes held in the Department of Correction's correctional facilities.

In the past fiscal year, the majority of our students 65 and older were enrolled in the following DCE educational classes:

Adult Basic Education I	9.2%
Adult Basic Education II	12.6%
Adult Basic Education III	10.9%
Adult Basic Education IV	13.4%
Adult Basic Education V	4.2%
Fast Track to GED	6.7%
Productive Citizenship	12.6%

The Department of Correctional Education maintains waiting lists for all of its academic and vocational classes in the adult correctional centers. Students age 65 or older must serve on DCE academic and vocational waiting lists just like students who are younger. At this time, there are no special privileges granted to seniors in regards to the DCE waiting list.

### **Programs Designed for Seniors**

Our educational services are offered to young and old students alike. At present, we do not have any educational classes designed specifically for seniors 65 or older.

### **Publication and Websites for Seniors**

Presently, DCE does not provide “consumer-oriented” publications for our seniors age 65 or older. And our student inmates in adult correctional centers have no access to the internet.

### **Future Programs for Seniors**

The Department of Corrections has one correctional center, Deerfield Correctional Center, which is specifically designed for geriatric and assisted living inmates. According to the DOC website, there are approximately 467 inmates currently housed there. Accordingly, Deerfield CC has a large number of DCE students that are 65 and over. In January 2007, the Department of Corrections will add 600 beds to Deerfield Correctional Center. In order to continue to meet the educational needs of our students at Deerfield, DCE will add another vocational, academic and transition program to the school there.

Our students age 65 and over are in need of educational programs that help with independent living and that offer therapeutic recreational activities. DCE will also work towards offering improved resources in the library such as large print books and books on tape. All of these things will aide us in providing better educational opportunities for the seniors we serve.

**SUBMITTED BY:** Patrice R. Johnson, Employee Benefits Manager