

## Media Advisory

For Immediate Release:

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

EDINBURGH – Please join Indiana Department of Correction and their partners, Ivy Tech Community College, to celebrate graduating cohorts of male offenders who have earned their industry-recognized American Welding Society (AWS) qualification certification at Edinburgh Correctional Facility on Friday, January 25, 2019 starting at 10:15 a.m.

Media is welcome to attend but **must arrive by 9:15 a.m. ET** for screening and **must RSVP** by 5 p.m. ET on January 24 to Margaux Auxier at [MAuxier@idoc.in.gov](mailto:MAuxier@idoc.in.gov).

**WHAT:** American Welding Society Certification Graduation

**WHO:** Dr. Sue Ellspermann, President, Ivy Tech Community College  
Rob Carter, Commissioner, Indiana Department of Correction  
Francis Osburn, Warden, Indiana Department of Correction

**WHEN:** 10:15a.m. EST, Friday, January 25, 2019

**WHERE:** Edinburgh Correctional Facility  
23<sup>rd</sup> and Schoolhouse Road (Camp Atterbury)  
Edinburgh, IN 46124

## **Background**

As a part of Gov. Holcomb's Next Level Agenda for 2018, the program trains men at the Edinburgh Correctional Facility how to weld with the ultimate goal of aligning them with gainful employment in the industry upon release. Welding is an exceptional pathway for released offenders, providing higher pay rates and stable employment upon re-entry. Currently Indiana's correctional facilities house about 27,000 offenders—and more than 90 percent of them will eventually be released back into Hoosier communities. **Employers who are interested in hiring graduates are especially welcome to attend the ceremony and meet our graduates.**

Learn more about AWS Qualification at [IvyTech.edu/industrial-technology](http://IvyTech.edu/industrial-technology)

