



**STATE OF INDIANA
Department of Correction**

Indiana Government Center—South

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Offenders Participate in First-Of-Its-Kind Virtual Job Fair



INDIANAPOLIS, IN—The Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) joined the Department of Workforce Development to produce a first-of-its-kind virtual job fair for currently incarcerated offenders.

Six employers from around the state participated in the inaugural job fair, including representatives from another state agency, the Indiana Department of Transportation. The job fair included businesses in manufacturing, plastics and grounds maintenance. Each business shared information about their company, available positions, salary, and benefits. Additionally, they fielded questions that were submitted prior to the event, as well as questions through a chat feature utilized and screened by facility staff. A total of 153 offenders from Plainfield, Rockville, Wabash, Westville, Pendleton and the Correctional Industrial Facility took part in the job fair.

“The IDOC is dedicated to stepping up to Governor Holcomb’s challenge to create a skilled and ready workforce. We have a wealth of talent leaving our facilities and returning to communities throughout Indiana and it’s our goal to set them up for success. This virtual job fair is one example of the creative initiatives we are excited to take part in,” said Executive Director of Programs and Re-Entry Readiness, Alexis Dean.

Currently Indiana’s correctional facilities house about 27,000 offenders in 21 state prisons—and more than 90 percent of them will eventually be released back into Hoosier communities. Among formerly incarcerated adults in Indiana facilities, there is a 37 percent recidivism rate in the first three years after being released. Recidivism numbers dramatically decrease for those who are able to secure employment and stay on the job.

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