

RCW 72.09.100 Inmate work program—Classes of work programs—

Participation—Benefits. It is the intent of the legislature to vest in the department the power to provide for a comprehensive inmate work program and to remove statutory and other restrictions which have limited work programs in the past. It is also the intent of the legislature to ensure that the department, in developing and selecting correctional industries work programs, does not encourage the development of, or provide for selection of or contracting for, or the significant expansion of, any new or existing class I correctional industries work programs that unfairly compete with Washington businesses. The legislature intends that the requirements relating to fair competition in the correctional industries work programs be liberally construed by the department to protect Washington businesses from unfair competition. For purposes of establishing such a comprehensive program, the legislature recommends that the department consider adopting any or all, or any variation of, the following classes of work programs:

(1) CLASS I: FREE VENTURE INDUSTRIES.

(a) The employer model industries in this class shall be operated and managed in total or in part by any profit or nonprofit organization pursuant to an agreement between the organization and the department. The organization shall produce goods or services for sale to both the public and private sector.

(b) The customer model industries in this class shall be operated and managed by the department to provide Washington state manufacturers or businesses with products or services currently produced or provided by out-of-state or foreign suppliers.

(c) The department shall review these proposed industries, including any potential new class I industries work program or the significant expansion of an existing class I industries work program, before the department contracts to provide such products or services. The review shall include the analysis required under RCW 72.09.115 to determine if the proposed correctional industries work program will compete with any Washington business. An agreement for a new class I correctional industries work program, or an agreement for a significant expansion of an existing class I correctional industries work program, that unfairly competes with any Washington business is prohibited.

(d) The department shall supply appropriate security and custody services without charge to the participating firms.

(e) Inmates who work in free venture industries shall do so at their own choice. They shall be paid a wage comparable to the wage paid for work of a similar nature in the locality in which the industry is located, as determined by the director of correctional industries. If the director cannot reasonably determine the comparable wage, then the pay shall not be less than the federal minimum wage.

(f) An inmate who is employed in the class I program of correctional industries shall not be eligible for unemployment compensation benefits pursuant to any of the provisions of Title 50 RCW until released on parole or discharged.

(2) CLASS II: TAX REDUCTION INDUSTRIES.

(a) Industries in this class shall be state-owned and operated enterprises designed primarily to reduce the costs for goods and services for tax-supported agencies and for nonprofit organizations.

(b) (i) The industries selected for development within this class shall, as much as possible, match the available pool of inmate work

skills and aptitudes with the work opportunities in the free community. The industries shall be closely patterned after private sector industries but with the objective of reducing public support costs rather than making a profit.

(ii) Except as provided in *RCW 43.19.534(3) and this section, the products and services of this industry, including purchased products and services necessary for a complete product line, may be sold to the following:

(A) Public agencies;

(B) Nonprofit organizations;

(C) Private contractors when the goods purchased will be ultimately used by a public agency or a nonprofit organization;

(D) An employee and immediate family members of an employee of the department;

(E) A person under the supervision of the department and his or her immediate family members; and

(F) A licensed health professional for the sole purpose of providing eyeglasses to enrollees of the state medical program at no more than the health professional's cost of acquisition.

(iii) The department shall authorize the type and quantity of items that may be purchased and sold under (b) (ii) (D) and (E) of this subsection.

(iv) It is prohibited to purchase any item purchased under (b) (ii) (D) and (E) of this subsection for the purpose of resale.

(v) Clothing manufactured by an industry in this class may be donated to nonprofit organizations that provide clothing free of charge to low-income persons.

(c) Under no circumstance shall offenders under the custody of the department of corrections make or assemble uniforms to be worn by correctional officers employed with the department.

(d) (i) Class II correctional industries products and services shall be reviewed by the department before offering such products and services for sale to private contractors.

(ii) The secretary shall conduct a yearly marketing review of the products and services offered under this subsection. Such review shall include an analysis of the potential impact of the proposed products and services on the Washington state business community. To avoid waste or spoilage and consequent loss to the state, when there is no public sector market for such goods, by-products and surpluses of timber, agricultural, and animal husbandry enterprises may be sold to private persons, at private sale. Surplus by-products and surpluses of timber, agricultural and animal husbandry enterprises that cannot be sold to public agencies or to private persons may be donated to nonprofit organizations. All sales of surplus products shall be carried out in accordance with rules prescribed by the secretary.

(e) Security and custody services shall be provided without charge by the department.

(f) Inmates working in this class of industries shall do so at their own choice and shall be paid for their work on a gratuity scale which shall not exceed the wage paid for work of a similar nature in the locality in which the industry is located and which is approved by the director of correctional industries.

(g) Provisions of RCW 41.06.142 shall not apply to contracts with Washington state businesses entered into by the department through class II industries.

(3) CLASS III: INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT INDUSTRIES.

(a) Industries in this class shall be operated by the department. They shall be designed and managed to accomplish the following objectives:

(i) Whenever possible, to provide basic work training and experience so that the inmate will be able to qualify for better work both within correctional industries and the free community. It is not intended that an inmate's work within this class of industries should be his or her final and total work experience as an inmate.

(ii) Whenever possible, to provide forty hours of work or work training per week.

(iii) Whenever possible, to offset tax and other public support costs.

(b) Class III correctional industries shall be reviewed by the department to set policy for work crews. The department shall prepare quarterly detail statements showing where work crews worked, what correctional industry class, and the hours worked.

(c) Supervising, management, and custody staff shall be employees of the department.

(d) All able and eligible inmates who are assigned work and who are not working in other classes of industries shall work in this class.

(e) Except for inmates who work in work training programs, inmates in this class shall be paid for their work in accordance with an inmate gratuity scale. The scale shall be adopted by the secretary of corrections.

(4) CLASS IV: COMMUNITY WORK INDUSTRIES.

(a) Industries in this class shall be operated by the department. They shall be designed and managed to provide services in the inmate's resident community at a reduced cost. The services shall be provided to public agencies, to persons who are poor or infirm, or to nonprofit organizations.

(b) Class IV correctional industries shall be reviewed by the department to set policy for work crews. The department shall prepare quarterly detail statements showing where work crews worked, what correctional industry class, and the hours worked. Class IV correctional industries operated in work camps established pursuant to RCW 72.64.050 are exempt from the requirements of this subsection (4) (b).

(c) Inmates in this program shall reside in facilities owned by, contracted for, or licensed by the department. A unit of local government shall provide work supervision services without charge to the state and shall pay the inmate's wage.

(d) The department shall reimburse participating units of local government for liability and workers compensation insurance costs.

(e) Inmates who work in this class of industries shall do so at their own choice and shall receive a gratuity which shall not exceed the wage paid for work of a similar nature in the locality in which the industry is located.

(5) CLASS V: COMMUNITY RESTITUTION PROGRAMS.

(a) Programs in this class shall be subject to supervision by the department. The purpose of this class of industries is to enable an inmate, placed on community supervision, to work off all or part of a community restitution order as ordered by the sentencing court.

(b) Employment shall be in a community restitution program operated by the state, local units of government, or a nonprofit agency.

(c) To the extent that funds are specifically made available for such purposes, the department shall reimburse nonprofit agencies for workers compensation insurance costs. [2012 c 220 § 2. Prior: 2011 1st sp.s. c 21 § 37; 2011 c 100 § 1; 2005 c 346 § 1; 2004 c 167 § 3; (2004 c 167 § 2 expired July 1, 2005); prior: 2002 c 354 § 238; 2002 c 175 § 49; 1995 1st sp.s. c 19 § 33; 1994 c 224 § 1; 1992 c 123 § 1; 1990 c 22 § 1; 1989 c 185 § 7; 1986 c 193 § 2; 1985 c 151 § 1; 1983 c 255 § 5; 1981 c 136 § 11.]

***Reviser's note:** RCW 43.19.534 was recodified as RCW 39.26.251 by 2012 c 224 § 28, effective January 1, 2013.

Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 21: See note following RCW 72.23.025.

Effective date—2011 c 100: "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [April 18, 2011]." [2011 c 100 § 2.]

Effective date—2004 c 167 § 3: "Section 3 of this act takes effect July 1, 2005." [2004 c 167 § 12.]

Expiration date—2004 c 167 § 2: "Section 2 of this act expires July 1, 2005." [2004 c 167 § 13.]

Short title—Headings, captions not law—Severability—Effective dates—2002 c 354: See RCW 41.80.907 through 41.80.910.

Effective date—2002 c 175: See note following RCW 7.80.130.

Findings—Purpose—Short title—Severability—Effective date—1995 1st sp.s. c 19: See notes following RCW 72.09.450.

Fish and game projects in prison work programs subject to RCW 72.09.100: RCW 72.63.020.