



*State of North Carolina*  
*Department of Public Safety*  
*Prisons*

Chapter: E  
Section: .1400  
Title: **Mandatory Education**  
Issue Date: 06/01/17  
Supersedes: 06/14/01

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**POLICY & PROCEDURES**

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**.1401 MANDATORY EDUCATION PROGRAM**

The purpose of the Mandatory Education Program is to ensure that all capable inmates committed to the Department of Public Safety are provided with the opportunity to improve their basic literacy skills while incarcerated, in an effort to improve their prospects of becoming law-abiding and self-supporting upon their release from prison. This policy is applicable only to those inmates described in section .1402 of this policy and is not intended to inhibit any Facility Head or designee from making appropriate assignments to educational programs at the facility.

**.1402 CRITERIA FOR MANDATORY PARTICIPATION**

- (a) Facility Heads are authorized to require all inmates without a high school diploma or **high school equivalency diploma (HSE)** who function below the **tenth-grade** achievement level to participate in an adult basic education/**high school equivalency (ABE/HSE)** program. Achievement below the **10<sup>th</sup>** grade level on reading or math, as measured by a standardized achievement test, will be used as the measure of an inmate's need for mandatory education. **Inmates age 17 and below will be required to participate in the mandatory education program regardless of their reading level.** Mandatory inmate participation in educational programs is restricted to full-time and part-time ABE/**HSE** programs.
- (b) Participation in Mandatory Education will be of at least **six** months duration. Inmates **earning their HSE diploma** prior to the end of the **six** month period may be removed from the Mandatory Education Program. Inmates not wishing to continue participation in the Mandatory Education Program at the end of the **six** month period may request reassignment through their case manager. If an inmate is transferred before completing a mandatory education program, such inmates may be required to complete any remainder of the session.

**.1403 IDENTIFICATION OF INMATES WITH EDUCATIONAL DEFICIENCIES**

The diagnostic centers shall be responsible for identifying inmates with educational deficiencies as specified in section .1402 of this policy. The Wide-Range Achievement Test (WRAT) shall be the primary test instrument for determining achievement levels.

**.1404 ASSIGNMENT OF INMATES TO ABE/HSE PROGRAMS**

Case Managers and other appropriate facility staff shall be responsible for recommending the assignment of inmates to the Mandatory Education Program. The Facility Head or designee shall be the final approving authority for such assignments.

**.1405 INMATE PERFORMANCE**

- (a) All inmates assigned to the mandatory education program are expected to work to their fullest potential and are to follow the instructions of the teacher.
- (b) Any inmate found to be unable to perform school assignments due to mental incapacity or other valid reasons, as based upon the professional judgment of the teacher or other qualified professionals, may be removed from the program.
- (c) Academic records shall be maintained on all inmates in the program.

**.1406 DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

- (a) Any inmate assigned to the Mandatory Education Program who refuses to attend class shall be subject to disciplinary action for disobeying a lawful order.
- (b) In the classroom, any inmate who becomes a disruptive force by failing to follow the instructions of the teacher shall be subject to disciplinary action for disobeying a lawful order.



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Director of Prisons

06-01-17  
Date

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