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Offender Job and Training Fair for Newly Populated Folsom Women's Facility

Work and Training Opportunities for Offenders Will Help Lead to Productive Lives After Prison

FOLSOM – The California Prison Industry Authority (CALPIA) is co-hosting a job fair with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) at the new Folsom Women's Facility (FWF) on Tuesday, March 5 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. to fill diverse work assignments at five local sites in areas such as accounting, business services, customer service, marketing, facility maintenance, warehousing, and more.

CALPIA is expanding its Career Technical Education (CTE) pre-apprenticeship carpentry, iron working and construction labor certification programs to include female offenders from the new women's facility. CALPIA will also provide the women with a valid California identification upon parole. The California ID Project began in 2010 as a collaborative pilot project between CALPIA, the Department of Motor Vehicles and CDCR.

To increase the chance of employment after release, all CALPIA offender participants have opportunities to achieve high-demand industry skill accreditations under the Inmate Employability Program, such as Certified Electronics Technician, Customer Service Specialist, Air Conditioning Service and Installation, among others. Additionally, all CALPIA offenders are required to obtain a high school diploma or complete a GED within two-years of beginning CALPIA programming.

Offenders who participate in CALPIA enterprises are 26 to 38 percent less likely to return to prison than general population offenders, according to CALPIA's 2013 Report to the Legislature (one-year and three-year rates).

Offenders who participate in CALPIA's CTE programs have a three-year recidivism rate of less than 15 percent. CALPIA CTE Carpentry program graduates have a cumulative recidivism rate of just 7.6 percent, according to a 2012 Prison Industry Board Report.

CALPIA anticipates expanding their CTE program to include computer programming, and their enterprises at Folsom State Prison to include e-recycling to increase the female offender workforce to more than 200 participants.

CALPIA is a self-financed state entity that provides training and productive work assignments for approximately 7,000 offenders in 24 CDCR institutions in California. CALPIA receives all of its revenue from the sale of the products it manufactures. The recidivism rate among CALPIA CTE participants is 82 percent lower than the general prison population, a success attributed to the job skills and industry certifications obtained by participating in the program.

CALPIA Report to the Legislature, February 1, 2013:

http://www.calpia.ca.gov/pdf/Public_Affairs/2013-Jan/Report-Leg-011713.pdf.

CALPIA Report to Prison Industry Board, Career Technical Education, 2012:

http://www.calpia.ca.gov/pdf/Public_Affairs/11.19.12PIBCTEreleaseFinal2.pdf

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