About

The Washington State Legislature passed ESSB 5121, an expansion to the current Graduated Reentry Legislation passed in 2018. This expansion was based largely on several factors such as prison capacity, success on return for 1-year recidivism rate of under 1% and societal change regarding the impacts and effects of incarceration within our communities.

Eligibility Requirements

This expansion now allows Washington State Department of Corrections (DOC) to transfer individuals onto electronic monitoring at an approved address under the following criteria:

**Track 1:** Individuals who serve a minimum of 6 months in total confinement in a state correctional facility may transfer with up to 5 months remaining on their sentence to electronic monitoring at an approved address. Individuals on this track must meet the following legislative criteria:

* Not subject to deportation order,
* Not subject to civil commitment order, or
* Not part of the interstate compact for out of state releases.

**Track 2:** Individuals who serve a minimum of 4 months total confinement in a state correctional facility may transfer with up to 18 months remaining on their sentence to electronic monitoring at an approved address. Individuals on this track must meet the following legislative criteria:

* Not serving a sentence for a sex, violent, or crime against a person,
* Not subject to deportation order, or
* Not under the jurisdiction of the Indeterminate Sentence Review Board

Statutory Obligations of 5121

While individuals are participating in GRE, DOC must:

* Place individuals on electronic monitoring
* Require persons to participate in programming and treatment based on assessed needs
* Assign a staff (Corrections Specialist 3) who will monitor for compliance with the conditions of partial confinement as well as programming requirements

Additional Requirements

* DOC may issue rental vouchers for up to 6 months if an approved address cannot be obtained without the assistance of that voucher
* DOC may return a participant to total confinement for any reason including but not limited to the person’s non-compliance with any sentence requirement, and
* Certain individuals may not qualify for transfer to partial confinement programs due to mandatory minimum sentences that must be served in total confinement as prescribed by statute.

"Having an opportunity with the GRE program helped inspire a fresh start in my life. My first focus was creating structure for myself and reconnect a relationship with my family. Being able to go on lunch dates with my wife, picking up and attending my children’s events from school, attending substance abuse disorder recovery meetings and church programs gave me a sense of freedom while still being accountable with my outings."

- Former GRE Participant
Frequently Asked Questions

What are the differences between GRE in 2018 and GRE Expansion in 2021?
SHB 2638 Graduated Reentry passed in 2018. This law expanded work release for up to 12 months to aid in obtaining addresses and created an option for home detention utilizing electronic home monitoring while individuals reside in approved residences completing their prison sentence. As part of SHB 2638, tracks were not formally introduced.

What is the screening process for GRE?
A transfer order is requested by the counselor for consideration of GRE. Staff will screen and approve transfer orders for movement. As individuals approach the window of eligibility, cases will be reviewed, and home investigations will be completed to finalize transfer orders so that individuals can move to approved housing.

Can we submit an application for GRE on behalf of our loved ones?
There is no external referral or application process required for participation in GRE. The request to participate in GRE is initiated by an individual’s assigned classification counselor. Transfer orders to participate are approved based upon resources and program availability. If you have specific questions about GRE, the screening process, or information regarding your loved ones reentry, email DOCREENTRYEXPANSION@DOC1.WA.GOV.

How does an incarcerated individual know which pathway they are eligible for?
Information about each partial confinement option (Community Parenting Alternative, Graduated Reentry, and Work Release) and eligibility criteria are provided to individuals during orientation at the reception centers upon entry to the correctional facility. Individuals are encouraged to become familiar and discuss the pathway options with their counselor to request the option best suited for them.

Per RCW 9.94A.733, the department shall publish a monthly report on its website the number of individuals transferred during the month to home detention as part of the graduated reentry program. Additionally, statute requires the department submit an annual report by December 1st to the legislature with the number of individuals transferred to home detention during the prior year. TBD stands for ‘To Be Determined’. The data in this section represents the two most current reporting years worth of data. The data is updated no later than the third Thursday of the month with the preceding month’s data.

— For More Information —
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