

REENTRY PACKET

Your Customized Guide to Support your Successful Transition



National Web-based Reentry Resource Center

www.fairshake.net

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Find A Job

Finding employment is one of the top priorities of most people in society. Finding employment after incarceration is not only pivotal for reentry success, it can also be a requirement for parole or a halfway house.

It is important to find satisfaction in our jobs, but sometimes we must temper our wishes with our needs.

When we have to take a job that we are not excited about now, we can leverage the feelings of dissatisfaction to push us toward whatever it is that we need to do to find satisfaction. These things may include: submitting applications for jobs that we really want but may not be available now, or trying to work in an organization that has a similar philosophy to our own so we can move within the organization to a job that is more fulfilling, or perhaps we need to get the education required for certain positions, or maybe what we really want is to start our own business but need to work a 'day job' until our idea provides enough income for us to thrive.

Knowing there are many avenues to employment, Fair Shake offers several ways for you to engage within our website.

Remember: most jobs get filled without ever being listed on a website!

When searching for employment, remember to consider what it is you want to do. What type of business would you like to work in, and in which positions do you think you would do well? What kind of jobs might you enjoy doing? Keep your eyes on the prize! Even if you must work in a job you don't care for now, remember that you are building character, patience, tolerance and REFERENCES. The image to the right is what our "Get A Job" page looks like today. This page, like all pages on the Fair Shake website, is constantly evolving. Please let us know what you think!


Fair Shake Employment Pages

Find a Job

Find a Job (or Start Your Own Business)

Job Search Engines

All search engines available online only


job-applications.com


#1 Independent Online Job Application Website

We offer links to online application pages and printable job application forms from our comprehensive database. We feature information on 1,500 popular companies in major industries such as fast food, retail, grocery stores, hotels and restaurants. Each company listed has a page which includes company history, service offered and common job opportunities. <https://www.job-applications.com/>

Way Up

<https://www.wayup.com/>

We feel strongly that opportunity belongs to all, and that an individual should never be limited by their economic status, race, sexual orientation, gender, who you know, where you went to school, or where you're from.



glassdoor

<https://www.glassdoor.com/>

Glassdoor is one of the fastest growing jobs and recruiting sites. It holds a growing database of millions of company reviews, CEO approval ratings, salary reports, interview reviews and questions, benefits reviews, office photos and more. No other site allows you to see which employers are hiring, what it's really like to work or interview there according to employees, and how much you could earn.

Jobs for Felons Hub

<http://jobsforfelonshub.com/>

A resource website created by a few folks who have personally watched their loved ones struggle to get a job due to having a felony. They share their free reentry employment guide here. Check out their website or their Facebook page for more information! <http://jobsforfelonshub.com/start-here/> or Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/jobsforfelonshub>




Successful Release

We have personally contacted each company for information regarding jobs for felons. <https://successfulrelease.com/jobs-for-felons/>

Guide to Finding a Job Through Networking <https://successfulrelease.com/who-hires-felons-where-to-network-to-find-jobs-for-felons/>

Formerly Incarcerated College Graduate Network

<https://www.ficgn.org/job-leads> Discover career-related jobs that welcome formerly incarcerated applicants and see the value in your lived experience.




Jobline

Toll-Free Number: 1-800-414-6748 If you are looking for employment, Jobline is a free public service available on the telephone 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. New jobs are listed on the system each day, and jobs that are filled are removed. All that is required is a touch-tone telephone to establish your personalized job-search profile. The system is designed for you to use each day during your job search.

USA Jobs

An official website of the United States government <https://www.usajobs.gov/>



O*Net
Occupation Search! <https://www.onetonline.org>


All of these websites have thousands of jobs available at different employability levels:

Indeed.com Simplyhired.com Monster.com Linkedup.com

Non-profit Job Search Engines:

Idealist

www.idealst.org Jobs, Internships and Volunteer Opportunities (that can sometimes turn in to jobs...)



Jobs That Help


<https://www.jobsthathelp.com/>

WISCONSIN JOB SEEKERS! Looking for a meaningful career that makes a positive difference in your community? Whether you are an experienced professional or an enthusiastic newcomer, you have come to the right place!

Encore


www.encore.org

Jobs for people 50+ yrs of age



Philanthropy News Digest

Philanthropy News Digest: all levels of non-profit jobs.




<http://philanthropynewsdigest.org/jobs>

GIGS: Single or multiple day opportunities

For an interesting temp option, you can check out the Craigslist in your area under 'Gigs'. You'll find opportunities that include moving furniture, doing yard work for a few hours, car dismantling, CDL temporary jobs, staff for weekend events, handyman, cleaning, carpentry, welding, electrical, plumbing, painting, brand ambassadors (reps) and much more. Many of these gigs have opportunities that can turn into jobs.

Keep the author's intent in mind when searching on Craig's list. Beware that some listings are quite sketchy...

<https://newyork.craigslist.org/>



Gary's Job Board: Truck Drivers wanted!

Gary can find you a better truck driving job, with or without a CDL.

Website: <http://www.garysjobboard.com/>

More information about trucking / driving jobs:

<https://www.fairshake.net/employment-trucking-driving-jobs/>


Prepare For Work!

www.fairshake.net/prepare-for-work/

- Resume Writing Ideas
- Letter of Explanation
- Prepare For Your Interview
- ... and much more!

Employer Support

Give employers tools and information to help them hire you.



Share this document with your potential employers to help them hire you.


Bonding, WOTC, and EEOC filers

- You are bondable
- Federal Bonding Filer
- Work Opportunity Tax Credit Filer
- Equal Employment Opportunity Commission: Background Checks
- More on Background Checks: What Applicants Need to Know
- Formerly Incarcerated Individuals' Job Restrictions (US and Wisconsin) Created by the WI-DDC

US Department of Labor CareerOneStop

Formerly Incarcerated Reemployment

<http://www.careeronestop.org/ExOffender/index.aspx>



Watch The Video!

1-877-348-0502 TTY: 1-877-348-0501

Career OneStop Locations:

Alabama Louisiana Ohio

Start Your Own Business

It's not easy, but for the creative, courageous and tenacious, it's often the right thing to do. Here are a few documents to help you get started.

- From the Small Business Administration
- Business Plan Template

Prepare For Work

There are many ways to approach employment. Some people 'know somebody', sometimes we get lucky and meet our new boss or coworkers where we volunteer or through a recreational activity...but most of us will write resumes, find available jobs online or through an employment agency, fill out applications and then endure one or many job interviews.

Thanks to the generosity of several resume' writing professionals and job readiness coaches, we've assembled what we've found to support you as you build your resume', your interview skills, and your confidence!


While the information here addresses several of the concerns of job seekers, we want to encourage you to also consider topics from the "Free School" section of this book, the website or the software, to support you through the inevitable challenges that will occur as you create desirable outcomes.

Please remember: many employers want to hear more about how you built yourself up while you were incarcerated than they do about your past. Keep the conversation positive!

They want to know that you care. That you will be a good listener and team member, if you can embrace the company culture, learn, follow through and get things done. They want to know that you are interested and motivated.

Prepare for Work

Everyone prepares for work in a different way. Fair Shake offers many tools for you to use in the way that you choose to prepare for temporary jobs or long-term careers.



O*Net
Occupation Search! <https://www.onetonline.org>

The Resume Writing Academy

www.resumewritingacademy.com

Resume Writing This document generously shared with Fair Shake by The Resume Writing Academy thanks to: Wendy Enelow, MRW, CCM, CPRW, JCTC and Louise Kursmark, MRW, CCM, CPRW, JCTC

- Resume Examples
- Top Tips & Techniques for Writing Best-in-Class Resumes
- Free 78-minute resume writing audio webcast with printable handouts.
- Best Resumes and Letters for Ex-Offenders

A resume guide that addresses special employment issues facing ex-offenders.

Raw Resume

<http://www.rawresume.com/write-resume-definitive-guide>

How to Write a Great Resume: The Definitive Guide This guide will take you from start to finish through all the aspects of a great resume and help you transform your current one into an interview-winning resume. Written for beginner and intermediate job seekers. Print or read The Complete Guide to A Winning Resume - Cheat Sheet to get started. Here I am - Resume Writing That Gets Noticed. The Complete Guide to a Winning Resume Cheat-Sheet

Discussing Your History in the Interview

- Discussing Criminal History in the Interview

Other Employment Support

Jails to Jobs

http://www.jailstojobs.org/html/help_with_new_entry.html

Jails to Jobs is an organization that gives ex-offenders the tools they need to find employment. On this website you'll find a step-by-step plan to follow as you carry out your job search.

Livecareer.com

Livecareer.com offers great tools and resources for exploring careers, whether you're searching for a new job or considering a career change. - See more at: <https://www.livecareer.com/quintessential/career-exploration>

how2become.com

How2become.com offers a resource guide that provides detailed insight into how to answer certain questions, body language and more.

<https://www.how2become.com/resources/interview-skills/>

Fair Shake Employment Documents

Available Offline and Online

- Employment Tips
- Resume Guide
- Interview Tips
- Interview Questions for You to Ask
- Sample Interview Questions
- Computer and Internet Tips
- Letter of Explanation
- Functional Resume Example
- Accomplishments and Skills Worksheet
- Employer Support
- Resume Examples
- Favorite Verbs for Your Resume
- Sample Employment Application
- Cover Letter | Thank You Letter
- Self Employment

Employer Support!

Share this document with your potential employers to help them hire you.

Bonding, WOTC, and EEOC fliers

- You are bondable | Federal Bonding Flier
- Work Opportunity Tax Credit Flier
- Equal Employment Opportunity Commission: Background Checks
- More on Background Checks: What Applicants Need to Know
- Formerly Incarcerated Individuals' Job Restrictions (US and Wisconsin) Created by the WI-DOJ

Start Your Own Business

It's not easy, but for the creative, courageous and tenacious, it's often the right thing to do. Here are a few documents to help you get started.

- From the Small Business Administration
- Small Business Administration: Start A Business!
- From the Consumer Information Center: Planning and Goal Setting for A Small Business
- Minding Your Own Business
- How to Write a Business Plan
- From the Fair Shake Reentry Packet
- Self Employment

US Department of Labor Career Onestop

Formerly Incarcerated Reemployment

<http://www.careeronestop.org/ExOffenderIndex.aspx>

careeronestop

Watch The Video!

1-877-348-0502 TTY: 1-877-348-0501

Career Onestop - Locations:

Alabama	Louisiana	Ohio
Alaska	Maine	Oklahoma
Arizona	Maryland	Oregon
Arkansas	Massachusetts	Pennsylvania
California	Michigan	Rhode Island
Colorado	Minnesota	South Carolina
Connecticut	Mississippi	South Dakota
Delaware	Missouri	Tennessee
Florida	Montana	Texas
Georgia	Nevada	Vermont
Hawaii	New Hampshire	Virginia
Idaho	New Jersey	Washington
Illinois	New Mexico	West Virginia
Indiana	New York	Wisconsin
Iowa	North Carolina	Wyoming
Kansas	North Dakota	
Kentucky		

Career Onestop

Put together a successful job search with resources on resumes, interviewing, networking and finding job openings.

<https://www.careeronestop.org/JobSearch/job-search.aspx>

Everything in this section available Online Only

- America's Service Locator** connects individuals to employment and training opportunities available at local American Job Centers. www.ServiceLocator.org
- America's Career InfoNet** occupation and industry information, salary data and career exploration assistance. www.CareerInfoNet.org
- mySkills myFuture** helps career changers find new occupations to explore. www.mySkillsmyFuture.org
- Veterans ReEmployment** is a one-stop website for employment, training, and financial help after military service. www.CareerOneStop.org/ReEmployment/Veterans

About The Fair Shake Personal Web Page

Personal Web Page Example

- Members differentiate themselves from other applicants!
- Members share information easily. No need to carry documents; they are stored in their account.
- Shows dedication to reentry success and provides a place to demonstrate interest in taking a proactive approach by sharing skills, character traits, and intentions.
- Employers and property managers can get to know members comfortably, reducing likelihood of auto-dismissal based on felony history.
- Fair Shake Member Card provides member information, url and password to the member's page.
- Member Web Page password is changeable! Access only given to current password holders.
- Fair Shake can verify references, even for volunteer work. Check out our example Personal Web Page | Personal Web Page Flyer | Fair Shake Brochure

Also available to Fair Shake members is a free email account, data storage and tutorials to learn to use electronic tools.

National Resources and Information

Advice from a Senior U.S. Probation Officer Workforce Development Coordinator

<http://community.ncdo.gov/forums/p/46711/85165>

- Federal Bureau of Prisons Employment Information Handbook
- Background Checks - EEOC

Veterans Employment Assistance: The Transition Assistance Program (TAP) was established to meet the needs of veterans during their period of transition into civilian life by offering job-search assistance and related services. The guide books below were created specifically to support you by applying

Employment - Workforce Development

Department of Development
77 South High Street, 29th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

<https://development.ohio.gov/business/workforce-development>

Family - Family Support

(614) 466-4815

This office oversees cash and food assistance programs, work support programs for recipients of cash and food assistance, the states child care program, refugee programs, and the Ohio Commission on Fatherhood.

<https://jfs.ohio.gov/>

Free - Free Phone

Assurance Wireless

P.O. Box 5040

Charleston, IL 61920-9907

1-888-321-5880

Assurance Wireless provides eligible consumers with free monthly data, unlimited texting, free monthly minutes plus a free Smartphone. Lifeline enrollment is available to individuals who qualify based on federal or state-specific eligibility criteria. Residents of homeless shelters, nursing homes and temporary addresses may also be eligible.

<https://www.assurancewireless.com/lifeline-services/what-lifeline>

Health - Free/Sliding Scale Clinic

1,400 Free and Charitable Clinics and Pharmacies provide access to healthcare for uninsured and underinsured people in communities across the U.S. Find one near you!

<https://nafcclinics.org/>

Health - Free/Sliding Scale Clinic with Dental

Listings that can help low-income and uninsured people connect with a clinic or community health center in their area. These clinics offer free and discounted rates for medical and dental care. Our county listings include contact information, a listing of services and any further remarks that may be pertinent to our users, such as free services provided, discounted services provided and clinic operating hours.

https://freeclinicdirectory.org/ohio_care.html

Health - Free/Sliding Scale Dental Clinic

The Web page provides a one-stop-shop for information, resources and support for Ohio's safety net dental clinics. Safety net dental clinics strive to provide oral health care to many people and their families who have low incomes. Services are provided regardless of a persons ability to pay. In general, safety net clinics are in communities where people with low incomes live. Find a location near you!

<https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/oral-health-program/ohio-dental-clinics/ohio-dental-clinics/>

Health - Reduced Cost Medication

(888) 311-6224 x115

Save an average of 15-55% on your prescriptions!

Print a free card or download the app to your phone.

<https://www.americasdrugcard.org/index.aspx>

Money - Social Security Benefits after Incarceration

Social Security and Supplemental Security Income Benefits

Individuals released from incarceration may be eligible for Social Security retirement, survivors, or disability benefits if you have worked or paid into Social Security enough years or Supplemental Security Income benefits if you are 65 or older, or are blind, or have a disability and have little or no income and resources.

If you believe you qualify, call our toll-free telephone number, 1-800-772-1213.

If you are deaf or hard of hearing, call TTY 1-800-325-0778.

<https://www.ssa.gov/reentry/benefits.htm>

Reentry Resource - Multiple Resources Available

Our findhelp technology powers Americas leading social care network. Our network features more than 300,000 free and reduced-cost programs in all 50 U.S. states, territories, and Puerto Rico, powering social care systems for hundreds of customers nationwide.

<https://www.findhelp.org/find-social-services/ohio>

Reentry Resource - Multiple Resources Available

211 connects you with thousands of nonprofit and government services in your area. If you want personal assistance call the three-digit number 211 or 877-947-2211. A friendly voice to talk with you 24/7/365. The link is to the national listing; as of 4.1.22, Ohio does not have a unique state listing.

<https://www.211.org/>

Reentry Resource - Reentry Coalition

4545 Fisher Road, Suite D
Columbus, OH 43228

The primary goals of the OERC are to reintegrate offenders into society, maintain public safety, and to reduce recidivism across the state of Ohio. The strategic plan offers state and local partners the ability to recommend changes in reentry policies and practices. In addition, our community partners are afforded the opportunity to develop a work plan to implement those changes and to build statewide support for them.

<https://drc.ohio.gov/reentry-coalition>



www.fairshake.net

PO Box 63 Westby, WI 54667 608-634-6363

Fair Shake Employer Support

All of this information and much more can be found at <https://www.fairshake.net/employers>

Although tremendous responsibility is on the shoulders of those transitioning from prison to society, their success is made possible only when the entire community is involved.

Employers have the opportunity to help create one of the first and most stable bridges to reentry success. Fair Shake supports an employer's desire to understand formerly incarcerated applicants by offering tools and information to help you make informed, careful hiring decisions.

Fair Shake has also created tools for our members to more fully demonstrate their character than may be available on a standard job application through our free "office in the clouds", which includes a Personal Web Page.

The FAIR SHAKE PERSONAL WEB PAGE (PWP): What you learn about these applicants

Building a Fair Shake personal web page is not an easy feat! Formerly incarcerated people who create this page demonstrate many things to you:

- **HONESTY:** They are open, honest and direct by letting you know s/he has been incarcerated. As you may well imagine, this takes an enormous amount of courage. We know that honesty is imperative to building trust. Is honesty something you are looking for in your employees?
- **SELF-MOTIVATION:** Creating this page demonstrates the applicant's perseverance, tenacity, and desire to succeed. S/he had no coercion in building this page; there was no class for it nor did anyone recommend they do this. They built the page of their own volition.
- **TECH-SKILLS:** A variety of computer skills were required to create the Personal Web Page including: scanning, storage, typing, and understanding 'cloud' technology; to name a few.
- **HUMANNESS:** In addition to the above, the applicant offers information here that describes more than skills and experiences; you learn who they are and what they bring to your organization. This information is very important in building company culture, but is not requested on standard job applications.

Why hire a formerly incarcerated person?

- To keep your options open for hiring the best possible candidate!
- Many formerly incarcerated people have received extensive training
- Many formerly incarcerated people are motivated to work
- Many formerly incarcerated people have a job coach or advisor
- Support is available for training and reducing risk

Fidelity Bonding Program

The **Fidelity Bonding Program** offers six months of free bonding support to businesses across the country to lower their risk when hiring applicants who have been incarcerated.

Federal Fidelity Bonding Program: <http://bonds4jobs.com>

Bonding can:

- Reduce your risk when you hire formerly incarcerated people
- Provide six months of FREE insurance against employee theft
- Be obtained quickly and easily by just a phone call to confirm your hire

To bond a formerly incarcerated new hire today **call toll-free: 877-US2-JOBS (877-872-5627)**

Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC)

The WOTC is a special tax credit available for hiring former felons (and others) and must occur within one year of their release date. The WOTC is available to any size business from small organizations to national corporations. The credit is also available for any type of job. The work can be full-time, part-time, temporary, or seasonal.

Facts about the WOTC tax credit:

- Employers can save as much as \$2,400 in taxes
- Applies to the first year of employment
- The new employee must work 120 hours for the employer to begin to receive credit

Exceptions:

- Not for independent contractor work
- Not for a business owned by a close relative

To find out more: <http://www.doleta.gov/business/incentives/opptax/wotcEmployers.cfm>

Or call: 1-800-829-4933

Employee Training Support

Your business may be eligible for a state or federal training grant (or other funding). To find out what you may qualify for, check with your Workforce Investment Board, Small Business Development Center, or economic development agency.

- Workforce Investment Board: <http://www.servicelocator.org/contactspartners.asp>
- Small Business Development Center: <https://www.sba.gov/tools/local-assistance>
- Economic Development Agency: <https://www.sba.gov/content/economic-development-agencies>

Ban the Box:

Are you ready to remove the box that says 'Have you ever been convicted of a felony?' from your job application forms? If so, we can help! <https://www.fairshake.net/ban-the-box/>

On our page you will find:

- Best Practices and Model Policies
- Fair Chance Fact Sheet
- Community Hiring Model
- Which states, cities and counties *Ban the Box*
- Learn from dedicated states like Minnesota who have Banned the Box for both public- and private-sector jobs. They freely share information for you to do this, too.