



DPSCS Welcomes 32 New Correctional Staff to Facilities Across Maryland

Latest graduating class reflects continued progress rebuilding the Department's workforce and making its prisons safer



Sykesville, MD - On August 20, 2026, The Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) celebrated the graduation of 32 correctional staff members from the Correctional Entrance Level Training Program at the Public Safety Education and Training Center in Sykesville.

Thirty-one graduates will join DPSCS facilities across Maryland, while one will serve at the Howard County Detention Center. The graduates will begin reporting to their assigned facilities in the coming days, providing added staffing support in Baltimore, Jessup, Hagerstown, Cumberland, and other parts of the state.

“Every officer who joins our ranks further strengthens our ability to operate safe and secure facilities,” **said DPSCS Secretary Carolyn J. Scruggs**. “This graduating class represents another important step in our sustained work to build our Department’s workforce with qualified professionals who are ready to serve their communities and support our mission to keep everyone safe, including the public, our hardworking staff, and those within our care.”

The graduates will report to the following facilities:

- Baltimore Central Booking and Intake Center - 1
- Baltimore City Correctional Center - 1

- Chesapeake Detention Facility - 1
- Dorsey Run Correctional Facility - 2
- Howard County Detention Center - 1
- Jessup Correctional Institution - 4
- Maryland Correctional Institution–Hagerstown - 6
- Maryland Correctional Institution for Women - 2
- Maryland Correctional Training Center - 7
- North Branch Correctional Institution - 2
- Patuxent Institution - 4
- Roxbury Correctional Institution - 1

The graduates completed a seven-week academy designed to prepare newly hired correctional professionals for their responsibilities. The program provides evidence-based training focused on ethics, professional standards and the safety of staff, the public and people in custody. Uniformed officers must also complete 200 hours of field training.

The Moore-Miller Administration and DPSCS have made rebuilding the correctional workforce a priority:

- The Department's vacancy rate has dropped from 15.36% in 2022 to 8.42% today, its lowest level in seven years.
- Between January 2015 and January 2023, 1,796 correctional positions were eliminated from the State budget. Since 2023, most of those positions have been restored.
- Correctional officer recruitment remains exempt from the statewide hiring freeze.
- DPSCS hired 684 correctional officers in 2025, the Department's highest annual total in at least a decade.
- No correctional officer positions were eliminated in the fiscal year 2027 budget.
- DPSCS has invested approximately \$6.8 million in workforce incentives. Eligible new correctional officers may receive a \$5,000 hiring bonus after completing the academy, passing probation and reaching one year of satisfactory service.

The August 20 graduation is part of a continuing academy schedule maintained by the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions. DPSCS continues to recruit correctional officers for facilities across the state.

Today's announcement comes on the heels of last month's milestone: DPSCS providing correctional officers at every Maryland state prison body-worn cameras to make staff and incarcerated individuals safer. As a result, all assaults across the system declined by 34 percent compared to July 2025. DPSCS also recently executed a facility camera upgrade project to improve existing technology and to expand the Department's available surveillance options.

For information about correctional officer careers, visit **www.dpsscscareers.com**.

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