

1. If I join CEO, am I still eligible to receive Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Plan and other public assistance?

It depends. Once you are enrolled in our program, our trained staff will use the Self Sufficiency Calculator (SSC) to determine your eligibility for various subsidies, including Public Assistance, Food Stamps, Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), Childcare, Medicaid, Family Health Plus, Child Health Plus, Earned Income Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit, and Child and Dependent Care Credit.

We also go over with you how to apply for benefits, how to access application forms when possible, and when necessary, refer you to local nonprofits that assist families with access to these supports.

We also have representative from Department of Health Services (DHS) and Human Resources Administration (HRA) that can answer specific questions on a case-by-case basis.

As always, our goal is for you to be on the road to financial independence.

2. How do I obtain my rap sheet?

Our staff will help you, or you can request an informational packet from the Records Review Unit of the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services at:

Record Review Unit
New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services
4 Tower Place
Albany, NY 12203
Phone: 518-457-6051
Fax: 518-457-6550

3. How do I obtain general information on issues relating to the employment of people with criminal records in New York State?

Established by the Legal Action Center, which provides legal assistance with people with criminal records, The National H.I.R.E. Network serves as a clearinghouse of information on employment for people with criminal records. Go to <http://www.hirenetwork.org> and click on New York State to get the information that you need, or call (212) 243-1313.

4. I want to receive my GED while I am going through the CEO program. How do I do this?

CEO emphasizes the importance of educational freedom as well as financial freedom. Our staff will help you to continue your education. We work with organizations such as the Literacy Assistance Center that will help you get your GED.

CEO

FAQ FOR PEOPLE UNDER PAROLE SUPERVISION

5. I want to go back to college while I am going through the CEO program. What do I have to do?

We work with the City University of New York (CUNY) system to connect you to programs that make the application process easier and that give financial support for formerly incarcerated individuals such as the *Nu Leadership* program and the *Black Male Initiative* program at Medgar Evers College and the *College Initiative* programs at Lehman and John Jay Colleges. Our staff will work with you to find the best program for you.

6. I have to attend other programs mandated by Parole while I am enrolled in CEO. How do I meet all these requirements?

Upon enrollment, CEO staff will work with your Parole Officer and counselors in other programs to work out a schedule that is best fit for you.