



This information is excerpted from CCJRC's publication, *Getting On After Getting Out: A ReEntry Guide for Colorado, 2nd Edition*. To order this guide, go to www.ccjrc.org.

Employment

While it may be hard to get a job, it *is* possible. Many employers will hire a person with a felony conviction. They say their hiring decision is based on how your skills match the job available, the kind of employee you appear you will be, and the way you present yourself. Your crime, or the fact that you have a criminal conviction, is important, but it may not be the deciding factor in whether or not you get a job.

- *Focus on selling yourself as the best person for the job.*

Many experts advise that you take any job, even if it's less than ideal, because it's a place to start. You will have some income while you look for a better job. Plus, being employed shows you're willing to work, and it can help you build a work history.

If you don't have identification documents, you need to start this process right away. Without an ID or Social Security card, you can't get a job.

Where to find help

We have tried to list a number of different places where you may find help getting a job. The first section lists all of the Workforce Centers throughout Colorado. These are state agencies where the services are free. Be sure to check them out.

The list of Workforce Centers is followed by a brief list of other agencies funded by state and federal dollars. Following that, you'll find a number of community agencies. Many of these agencies are in the Denver metro area but not all. Be sure you read through the list carefully.

Workforce Centers

Workforce Centers are run by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and located throughout Colorado. The services are free and can help you get a job. The services include job placement assistance, labor market information, current job listings, referrals to employers, and education and training information.

- The resource rooms have free computers with internet access, printers, fax, copy machines, and telephones. The Centers can also with the Work Opportunity Tax Credit and Federal Bonding program paperwork.
- For more information, see www.colorado.gov/CDLE. You may also call 303.318.8000 for general information.

Alamosa (719.589.5118), 1016 West Avenue #6, Alamosa, CO 81101

Aurora (303.363.9380), 3538 Peoria Street, Suite 511, Aurora, CO 80010

Black Hawk (303.582.6003), 2960 Dory Hill Road, Suite 100, Black Hawk, CO 80403

Boulder

- Longmont (303.651.1510), 1500 Kansas Avenue, Suite 4D, Boulder, CO 80501
- Workforce Boulder County (303.301.2900) 2520 55th Street, Suite 100, Boulder, CO 80301

Brighton (303.659.4250), 18 N. Main Street, Brighton, CO 80601
Broomfield (303.464.5855), 6650 W. 120th Avenue, Unit A1, Broomfield, CO 80020
Burlington (719.346-5331), 1490-A Martin Avenue, (PO Box 115) Burlington, CO 80807
Cañon City (719.275.7408), 3224 Independence Road, Cañon City, CO 81212
Castle Rock (303.688.4825 x5037), 4400 Castleton Court, Suite 197, Castle Rock, CO 80108
Colorado Springs

- Pikes Peak (719.667.3700), 2306 E. Pikes Peak Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80909
- Pikes Peak Community College (719.579.3080), 5675 S. Academy Blvd., Suite A115, Colorado Springs, CO 80906

Cortez (970.565.3759), 2208 E. Main Street, Cortez, CO 81321
Craig (970.824.3246), 480 Barclay, Craig, CO 81625
Cripple Creek (719.689.3584 x13), Aspen Mine Community Center, 166 E. Bennett Avenue (PO Box 129), Cripple Creek, CO 80813
Delta (970.874.5781), 206 Ute Street, Delta, CO 81416
Denver

- Speer (720.865.5619), 1391 N. Speer Boulevard, Suite 500, Denver, CO 80204
- Stapleton, 4685 S. Peoria Street, Denver, CO 80239
- Westside (720.944.1615), 1200 Federal Boulevard, Denver, CO 80204
- DIA (303.342.2590), 8500 Pena Boulevard (5th level, main terminal, west side), Denver, CO 80249
- Workforce Center for Youth (720.865.5700), 1391 N. Speer Blvd, Suite 520, Denver, CO 80204.

Durango (970.247.0308), 331 South Camino Del Rio, Suite C, Durango, CO 81303
Edwards (970.926.4440), 0069 Edwards Access Road #9 (PO Box 1389), Edwards, CO 81632
Elizabeth (303.646.2783), 240 Elizabeth Street Suite A-1, Elizabeth, CO 80107
Fort Collins (970.498.6600), 200 W. Oak Street (PO Box 2367), Suite 5000, Fort Collins, CO 80521
Fort Lupton (970.353.3800 x5890), 2950 9th Street, Fort Lupton, CO 80621
Fort Morgan (970.867.9401), 411 Main Street #200, Fort Morgan, CO 80701
Frisco (970.668.5360), 602 Galena Street (PO Box 679), Frisco, CO 80443
Glenwood Springs (970.945.8638), 51027 Hwy 6 & 24, Glenwood Springs Mall, Suite 173, Glenwood Springs, CO 81601
Golden (303.271.4700), Laramie Building, 3500 Illinois Street, Golden, CO 80401
Granby (970.887.1857), 469 East Topaz (PO Box 1985), Granby, CO 80446
Grand Junction (970.248.7560), 2897 North Avenue, Grand Junction, CO 81501
Greeley (970.353.3800), 1551 N. 17th Avenue (PO Box 1805), Greeley, CO 80632
Greenwood Village (303.636.1160), Arapahoe/Douglas Works! 5500 S. Quebec Street, Suite 175, Greenwood Village, CO 80111
Gunnison (970.641.0031), 109 East Georgia, Gunnison, CO 81230
Idaho Springs (303.567.3135), 1531 Colorado Blvd. (PO Box 3669), Idaho Springs, CO 80452
La Junta (719.383.3191), 215 Raton Avenue, La Junta, CO 81050
Lamar (719.336.2256), 405 East Olive Street, Lamar, CO 81052
Leadville (719.486.2428), 115 W. 6th Street (PO Box 1263), Leadville, CO 80461
Limon (719.775.2387), 285 D Avenue (PO Box 875), Limon, CO 80828
Longmont (720.652.4209), 4209 WCR 24 ½, Longmont, CO 80501
Loveland (970.667.4261), 418 E. 4th Street, Loveland, CO 80537
Meeker (970.878.4211), 345 Market Street (PO Box 68), Meeker, CO 81641
Monte Vista (719.852.5171), 2079 Sherman Avenue, Monte Vista, CO 81144
Montrose (970.249.7783), 504 N. 1st Street, Montrose, CO 81401
Pagosa Springs (970.264.5627), 527 San Juan St., Suite D, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Pueblo (719.562.3720), 212 West 3rd Street, Pueblo, CO 81003
Rangely (970.675.5072), 500 Kennedy Drive, Johnson Building, Rangely, CO 81648
Rifle (970.625.5627), 310 West 3rd Street, Rifle, CO 81650
Rocky Ford (719.254.3397), 801 Chestnut Avenue, Rocky Ford, CO 81067
Salida (719.539.6523), 141 East 3rd Street, Salida, CO 81201

Steamboat Springs (970.879.3075) 425 Anglers Drive (PO Box 880816, ZIP 80488), Steamboat Springs, CO 80487

Sterling (970.522.9340), 100 College Drive, Sterling, CO 80751

Thornton (303.452.2304), 550 Thornton Parkway, Thornton, CO 80229

Trinidad (719.846.9221), 140 North Commercial, Trinidad, CO 81082

Walsenburg (719.738.2372), 400 Main Street, Walsenburg, CO 81089

Westminster (303.453.8600), Adams County Workforce and Business Center, 12200 Pecos Street, Westminster, CO 80234

Woodland Park

Yuma (970.848.3760), 529 N. Albany St., Suite 1210, Yuma, CO 80759

Denver's Road Home

Ex-Offender Employment Specialist Office
of Economic Development Division of
Workforce Development
1200 Federal Boulevard, Denver, CO 80204
720.944.2786

The employment specialist for Denver's Road Home can help you with your job search if you are homeless, in a halfway house or transition housing, or at risk of becoming homeless. You can also get a voicemail account, bus tokens for work, haircut vouchers, and clothing vouchers. Call for the orientation schedule and to make an appointment.

Goodwill Industries

7190 Colorado Boulevard, Commerce City, CO 80022
Adams County residents: 303.227.2637
Arapahoe County residents: 303.636.1745 or 303.636.1746

Goodwill helps ex-offenders with workforce training programs. These programs include short term training for a specific job, such as green jobs, computer classes and commercial driver's license, or medical certification. Participants receive resource information for families, including childcare, housing options, health insurance, financial planning and tax preparation. To be eligible, you must live in Adams or Arapahoe County, have children, and have a household income less than \$75,000.

Job Corps

924 W Colfax Avenue, Suite #104D, Denver, CO 80204
303.623.0420

Job Corps is a federally funded program through the Department of Labor where young people between the ages of 16 and 24 can complete their GED or high school diploma and receive a wide choice of vocational training. For further information, contact the admission counselor at Job Corps.

Stop the Revolving Door

Stop the Revolving Door is an employment training program that is administered by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment. The only requirement for eligibility is a criminal background that makes it hard for someone to find and/or keep a job. The program can accept people on parole, probation, or those who discharged their sentence. It also doesn't matter how long it has been since release.

- A service coordinator is located in the Denver metro area. Call the hotline at 303.453 8674 for current information.
- The Motherhood Program is for women with one or more children under the age of 18. You must make under \$75,000 a year and have had a brush with the law.

TIP: If you're not sure which career best suits your interests and personality, College in Colorado has several online tests and tools to help you. Go to www.collegeincolorado.org and click on the Career Planning tab at the top of the page to learn more about yourself and explore careers.

Community agencies

A number of community organizations help people with their job search. We list only a few in this guide, mostly from the Denver metro area. You may be able to find other resources in the Denver metro area by calling 211.

- If you live outside of the Denver metro area, 211 operators have information about many communities throughout Colorado.

American Association of Retired Persons (AARP)

777 Grant Street, Suite B-130, Denver, CO 80203
720.946.2901 www.aarp.org/states/co

AARP administers the Senior Foundation Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP), a grant that helps low-income people 55 and over with their job search. You must be a resident of Adams, Arapahoe, or Denver County. Office hours are 8-3 pm. They also have a work search assessment program for people 40 and over. Call the office to make an appointment.

DenverWorks

2828 Speer Boulevard, Suite #201, Denver, CO 80211
303.433.0300 www.denverworks.org

DenverWorks is a faith-based nonprofit organization. Their 2nd Chance program helps people with a criminal conviction with their job search. The workshop includes job search techniques, identifying employers likely to hire people with a criminal conviction, and interviewing skills. You must take a Former Offender Workshop to enter the 2nd Chance program. These workshops are usually held on the first and third Thursday of every month. Call the number above for current information and to register for a workshop.

Denver Urban Ministries (DenUM)

1717 E. Colfax Avenue, Denver, CO 80218
303.355.4896 x100 www.denum.org

DenUM has a Job Services Center that may help you with your job search. They may also help with bus tokens for transportation to interviews and with uniforms for some jobs. To use the Job Services Center, you must attend an orientation session at DenUM, currently offered every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9 am. Call for current information.

Empowerment Program

1600 York Street, Denver, CO 80206
303.320.1989 www.empowermentprogram.org

Empowerment Program offers a Job Readiness Training program that focuses on work readiness, applications, mock interviews, accessing the hidden job market, career exploration, résumés, cover letters, marketing yourself, and job leads/referrals. People who complete the Job Readiness Training program are referred to training programs and other jobs. A Job Search Lab is open for all "survival" job referrals and for job search assistance.

- Women should contact Empowerment at the number above to set up an appointment for an orientation. Their Fast Track training program offers opportunities to gain employment in a number of different vocations, such as medical billing, floral arrangement, new green jobs, forklift operator, culinary arts, etc.

- Men should contact Empowerment at 303.339.7117 to get started with services. The program for men is located at 1733 York Street.

Matthews Center LLC

3030 Downing Street, Denver, CO 80205
303.295.0376 www.matthewscenters.com

The Matthews Center is close to Denver's Whittier, Five Points, Cole, and Curtis Park neighborhoods. The Center offers services and programs to help you get a job. In collaboration with their partners, the Matthews Center LLC currently offers training in all terrain forklift certification, backhoe certification, bobcat (skidster) certification, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) & first aid certification, CDL licensing, construction basics, highway flagging certification, life skills, and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Certification Training Walk-ins are welcome. Operating hours are Monday thru Friday 8 am to 5 pm.

Mi Casa Resource Center

360 Acoma Street, Denver, CO 80223
303.573.1302 www.micasaresourcecenter.org

1249 E. Routt, Pueblo, CO 81004
719.542.0091 www.micasaresourcecenter.org

Mi Casa Resource Center is a nonprofit organization that helps Latino families be more economically successful. The organization targets Latinos, but you don't have to be Latino to qualify for their help. Mi Casa offers job training, placement services, career counseling, GED, English as a second language classes, entrepreneurial training, and small business planning.

Mi Casa's Denver office has a construction program for people interested in entering the trades. Students completing this ten-week program receive Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification. Mi Casa's Pueblo office also serves Colorado Springs. This office helps people who want to start their own business.

Mission Wear

2323 Emerson Street, Denver, CO 80205
303.808.7538 www.themissionwear.org

Mission Wear is a nonprofit organization that provides employment for women who are in recovery. Since employees sew reusable bags out of different fabrics, sewing ability is a requirement. Call for additional information. The nonprofit regards itself as a safe place for women to re-enter the work place.

Project Renew

Denver Inner City Parish
1212 Mariposa Street, Denver, CO 80204
303.629.0636 www.dicp.org

Project Renew is inside the Denver Inner City Parish, which is across the street from Lincoln Park on the corner of 12th and Mariposa. Project Renew offers help finding employment and preparing résumés. A job coach is available as well as a computer lab. Hours are Tuesday-Thursday, 10:30-4. Walk-ins are welcome.

Restoring Hope Prison Recovery Program (formerly known as Shelter of Hope)

2625 E. Saint Vrain, Colorado Springs, CO 80909
719.473.3703 www.restoringhopeonline.com

Restoring Hope Prison Recovery Program is a private nonprofit organization that helps people re-entering the Colorado Springs community find shelter, employment, and other immediate needs. Call or

write for current information.

Rocky Mountain SER (Service, Employment, Redevelopment)

Administrative offices: 3555 Pecos Street, Denver, CO 80211

Mailing address: PO Box 11148, Denver, CO 80211

303.480.9394 or 1.800.748.2074

www.rmser.org

Rocky Mountain SER works with local Workforce Centers in southcentral Colorado (includes Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Huerfano, Las Animas, Mineral, Saquache and Rio Grande counties) and southeastern Colorado (Otero, Prowers, Baca, Bent, Crowley and Kiowa counties). People are usually referred to Rocky Mountain SER by a local Workforce Center in one of these counties. If you are not and would like to know more, ask your local Workforce Center for the number of the local Rocky Mountain SER office. (The telephone number for every Workforce Center is listed earlier in this chapter.)

- Rocky Mountain SER provides on-the-job training, work experience opportunities, tuition assistance for post-secondary schools or private training, and supportive services such as assistance with transportation, clothing, and tools and equipment.

St. Francis Employment Services

2323 Curtis Street, Denver, CO 80205

303.298.8686

www.sfcdenver.org

Well-known as a day shelter, St. Francis Center also has an employment services program next door to the shelter. The mailing address is listed above, but the street address is 1001 Park Avenue West in the Cornerstone Building.

The program offers a permanent job referral service as well as a day labor program. Hours are Monday-Friday, 7-11:30 am. You will need to bring a Social Security card and a state-issued photo ID, complete their application, and attend an orientation session.

The Road Called STRATE

1532 Galena Street, Suite 395, Aurora, CO 80010

303.360.9176

www.theroadcalledstrate.com

The Road Called STRATE (Society True Rehabilitative Attitude Towards Ex-Offenders) is a private nonprofit program for people with a felony conviction. The staff offers help with job preparation and retention classes, "felon-friendly" employer listings, and job search classes. They also offer computer classes, food and clothing banks, GED preparation, mentoring, counseling, life skills training, and substance abuse classes. Bus tokens are available for job search purposes. Case managers are available who specialize in helping women with their specific needs. Contact The Road Called STRATE to make an appointment.

Turnabout, Inc.

1630 East 14th Avenue, Denver, CO 80218

303.813.0005

www.turnaboutprogram.org

Turnabout, Inc. is a nonprofit career and education program for people with a criminal history. Twice weekly orientation is offered for anyone seeking employment. Various services are available for applicants who qualify based on the time since release, age, and/or type of conviction. A monthly 14-hour Employment Search Program begins intensive services and includes goal setting, résumé writing, interviewing skills, and work maturity.

Turnabout can refer you to potential employers, college programming, long-term mentoring and support services, and other helpful agencies. Turnabout has expertise in jobs in the new energy economy and a lot of re-entry information. The office is one block south of Colfax at Gilpin Street inside the Warren United Methodist Church. Contact them for orientation times.

Women's Bean Project, Inc.

3201 Curtis Street, Denver, CO 80205
303.292.1919 www.womensbeanproject.org

The Women's Bean Project offers a transitional job in gourmet food and handmade jewelry manufacturing where you can earn an immediate income while you learn the skills you need to get and keep a job. The Bean Project helps to arrange support services (professional clothing, housing search) and can refer you to other organizations for GED tutoring, counseling, and other services. These jobs are not long-term. They are transitional jobs that typically last six to twelve months, and they are intended to teach you the skills you need to move into permanent employment. You can go to the Bean Project and fill out an application for employment, Monday- Friday, 8:30-4:30.

Women's Resource Agency

750 Citadel Drive East, Ste. 3116 (in the Citadel Mall, upper level, by JC Penney's) Colorado Springs, CO 80909
719.471.3170 www.wrainc.org

The Women's Resource Agency offers services to help women with career-related short and long term goals. They can help with résumé and interview coaching, workshops on topics like job readiness and networking, computer assistance, and job listings.

Work Options for Women

Denver Human Services Building
1200 Federal Boulevard, Denver, CO 80204
720.944.1920 www.workoptions.org

Students train and work with professional chefs at the cafeteria location in the Denver Human Services building as well as their downtown location, Cafe Options. The WOW support services team works with students to address barriers to employment such as homelessness, unreliable childcare, and health issues. While in the program, students participate in life skills training and classes on decision making, budgeting, work readiness, and more.

- At the end of training, WOW's staff guides each student until they find employment; working relationships are maintained with a growing number of food service businesses that hire WOW graduates.
- Upon a student's employment, all graduates receive support for one to three years to ensure stability at work and home.
- If interested in becoming a student, please call the intake line at 720.944.3393 to be put on the orientation schedule. Orientations are held every Monday at 10 am at WOW.