



Division of Parole and Probation

Offender Assessment Overview

Offender Classification

© Offender Classification

- **NRS 213.1078 Level of supervision of probationer or parolee; review; notice to probationer or parolee of change in level.**
- 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, the Division shall set a level of supervision for each probationer. At least once every 6 months, or more often if necessary, the Division shall review the probationer's level of supervision to determine whether a change in the level of supervision is necessary. The Division shall specify in each review the reasons for maintaining or changing the level of supervision. If the Division changes the level of supervision, the Division shall notify the probationer of the change.
- 2. The provisions of subsection 1 are not applicable if:
 - (a) The level of supervision for the probationer is set by the court or by law; or
 - (b) The probationer is ordered to participate in a program of probation secured by a security bond pursuant to NRS 176A.300 to 176A.370, inclusive.
- 3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, at least once every 6 months, or more often if necessary, the Division shall review a parolee's level of supervision to determine whether a change in the level of supervision is necessary. The Division shall specify in each review the reasons for maintaining or changing the level of supervision. If the Division changes the level of supervision, the Division shall notify the parolee of the change.
- 4. The provisions of subsection 3 are not applicable if the level of supervision for the parolee is set by the Board or by law.
- (Added to NRS by 1997, 1560)

Offender Classification

History/Purpose

- The Division of Parole and Probation has been using an assessment tool based on the *Wisconsin Client Management System* for the past 30 or more years.
- The Division's assessment instrument is used to estimate future recidivism or criminal behavior (*risk*) and to identify factors which may influence criminal behavior (*needs*).
- The Division utilizes the assessment tool to aid in the establishment of an offender's supervision level, assist in the prioritization of offender contacts and to identify offender treatment needs.

©Validation:

- In October 2007, the Division contracted with the National Council on Crime and Delinquency (NCCD) to validate the Division's assessment instrument.
- According to a report prepared by NCCD in June 2009, the Division's risk assessment is functioning "reasonably well."

Risk and Needs

Offender Intake/Supervision

- Within the first 30 days of supervision, officers are **required** to complete an initial risk and needs assessment.
- Officers obtain information from the offender and from official records such as criminal history records, presentence reports and crime reports. This information is used to complete data fields on the risk and needs assessment instrument.
- Officers are **required** to reassess offenders every six months and adjust supervision levels as needed. Officers are **required** to notify offenders of a supervision level change.

Risk and Needs

Risk Data Categories:

- Residence (# of changes)
- Employment (duration)
- Alcohol/Drug Usage (frequency)
- Attitude (impression of offender)
- Education Level
- Age at First Arrest
- Number of Prior Supervisions (includes juvenile)
- Number of Revocations
- Number of Gross Misdemeanor/Felony Convictions (includes juvenile and deferred cases)
- Conviction Type (original charge)
- Assaultive Behavior (within last 5 years/if yes, requires a supervision level of maximum for the first 3 months)

Risk and Needs

Needs Data Category:

- Vocational Skills (adequate, low, minimal level)
- Employment (satisfactory for 1 year or more, secure, unsatisfactory, unemployed/virtually unemployable)
- Emotional Stability (functioning in life situations/therapy/treatment)
- Financial Management (level of stability)
- Companions (positive support vs. adverse relationships, association with negative results)
- Marriage/Family Relationships (strong/stable/dysfunctional)
- Sexual Behavior (no problems/convictions/dysfunction)
- Alcohol/Drug Usage (disruption of functioning/frequency/needs treatment)
- Mental Ability (independent functioning/limited functioning)
- Health (sound health/chronic illness)
- Officers Impression of Needs
- Prior Supervision

Risk and Needs

- Upon completion of the data fields, a score is calculated identifying offender risk and needs.
- The score is used to place the offender in a particular level of supervision.

	RISK	NEEDS
1. Intensive	23 or above	N/A
2. Maximum	15-22	30 or above
3. Medium	7-14	7-29
4. Minimum	0-6	(-8) - (+6)

****Officer or supervisor may override the calculated score as necessary.**

- The Division has drafted a BDR revising the Earned Compliance Credits received by offenders for maintaining employment and/or paying restitution and fees while under supervision.
- See attached BDR