

CERTIFICATE OF QUALIFICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT

(CQE)

2016 ANNUAL REVIEW



Ohio

Department of
Rehabilitation & Correction

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CQE: An Overview

Effective September 29, 2012, a "Certificate of Qualification for Employment" (CQE) was created under Revised Code Sec. 2953.25. The Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (DRC) adopted rules in accordance with this chapter for the implementation and administration of this process and generated forms for the petition for a CQE as charged under the statute.

These [rules and forms](#) were adopted February 18, 2013, after which the DRC and common pleas courts were able to accept petitions either directly or online. The DRC developed and maintains the online petition site.

In 2013, the DRC conducted an outreach initiative to raise awareness of the availability of the then-new CQE process. The Ohio Judicial College, in conjunction with the Ohio Judicial Conference, offered two online webinars to judges, court administrators, clerks of courts and other court staff.

A [feasibility study](#), mandated via statute, was conducted in 2013 to review the application process and its impact on caseload capacity of the DRC and common pleas courts.

After one full year of implementation of the CQE program, the Ohio Judicial Conference was required to contribute to a report written by DRC. Reports from all years are available [online](#).

CQE: The 2016 Report

As of January 1, 2017, there have been 588 successful CQE applications. This is a total that can easily be extracted from DRC records. The information on the following pages provides specific details regarding the CQE process in 2016.

Certificate of Qualification for Employment (CQE) Summary Data as of 1/1/17

Petition Status	Total	Petition Status Key
Petition in Process	1559	Petitioner registered in system; Petition has not been submitted
Information Needed	60	Petition sent back to petitioner for additional information
Petition Cancelled	104	Petition cancelled by petitioner; duplicate petitions likely cause
Ineligible to Apply at this Time	103	Petition submitted; determined by DRC staff that the petitioner is ineligible to file due to time constraints from last conviction/supervision period
Petition in DRC Review	5	Petition submitted and is awaiting review by DRC staff
Petition in Common Pleas Court Review	1244	Petition submitted and reviewed by DRC staff; submitted to the Court for review (does not indicate if a petitioner has actually filed with the Court)
Petition Denied	140	The Court has ruled on the petition and denied the CQE; Petition Process Complete
Petition Approved	588	The Court has ruled on the petition and approved the CQE; Petition process complete
Total	3803	

CQE Approvals and Denials

2015 Approved CQEs by Type (General Employment/State Licensing Board)

County Breakdown of Approved/Denied Petitions 2016

County Breakdown*	Petitions	Approved	Denied	In DRC Review	In Court Review	In Progress (Not Submitted)	Other Status
Butler	7	0	0	0	3	4	0
Cuyahoga	210	25	19	3	45	105	13
Franklin	88	9	7	0	21	46	5
Hamilton	165	46	8	0	41	64	6
Lake	11	5	14	0	1	4	1
Lorain	6	1	0	0	2	3	0
Lucas	29	8	3	0	8	9	1
Mahoning	120	12	7	0	50	43	8
Marion	6	1	0	0	2	2	1
Medina	6	1	0	0	1	4	0
Montgomery	28	8	7	0	5	8	0

Richland	7	0	1	0	0	3	3
Stark	56	25	3	0	15	10	3
Summit	240	31	7	0	148	42	12
Trumbull	14	4	1	0	4	5	0
Total	993	176	77	3	346	352	53

***List consists of large metropolitan counties and those with the most petitions in the system. Remaining counties not listed have four or fewer petitions in the system.**

CQE FEASIBILITY QUESTIONS						TOTAL RESPONSES
How many convictions did you identify for this petitioner?	0-2 convictions	3-5 convictions	More than 5 convictions			
Misdemeanors	113 (44%)	81 (31%)	65 (25%)			259
Felonies	190 (77%)	34 (13%)	24 (10%)			251
How many hours did your court spend on the initial investigation?	Under 3 hours	3.0-5.0 hours	More than 5.0 hours			
	182 (75%)	45 (19%)	15 (6%)			242
How much money did the Court spend (excluding staff time/expense) for this investigation?	None	Less than \$25	\$25-\$100	\$101-\$250	More than \$250	
	128 (54%)	19 (8%)	91 (38%)	0 (0%)	1 (0%)	239
Did the Court order additional	Yes*	No				

investigations for this petition?						
	65 (27%)	177 (73%)				242
*If Yes, who collected the information?	Clerk's Office	Probation Dept.	Court Admin	Other		
	0 (0%)	49 (75%)	5 (8%)	11 (17%)		65
*How much time did they spend?	Under 3.0 hours	3.0-5.0 hours	More than 5.0 hours			
	24 (38%)	0 (0%)	40 (63%)			64
What was the total amount of fees and court costs assessed to the petitioner?	Less than \$50	\$50-\$100	\$101-\$150	\$151-\$200	\$201-\$250	
	60 (25%)	104 (43%)	63 (26%)	1 (0%)	4 (2%)	
	\$251-\$350	\$351-\$450	More than \$450			
	8 (3%)	2 (1%)	0 (0%)			242

CQE: Moving Forward in 2017

In late 2016, the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction made the decision to terminate the Justice Reinvestment Officer (JRO) special assignment. The JROs were responsible for reviewing all petitions submitted to DRC to verify the petitioner's eligibility as well as reviewing petitions for completeness. The JROs will transition back to their previous positions as parole officers and senior parole officers in February 2017, at which time, the CQE process will transition to the DRC's Office of Reentry within the Office of Programming, Development, and Evaluation. Moving forward in 2017, the CQE process will be managed by one Reentry Administrator, providing courts and citizens one point of contact for CQE related questions and concerns.