

**SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
**NEW CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM**  
**INMATE INFORMATION SHEET**



**OLD CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM** **VS** **NEW CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM**

**Earned Work/Education Credit Levels**

Inmates were eligible to earn the highest work/education level (level 2) with eight (8) years or less to maxout and by remaining disciplinary free.

All inmates, regardless of length of time to serve, will earn work/education credits at a level 2 if they are disciplinary free. If an inmate receives a major disciplinary conviction, the level will change to 3 for 12 months. If the inmate receives another major disciplinary within the 12 months, the level will change to 5. After 12 months major disciplinary free, the earning level will advance to the next highest earning level.

**Annual Hardship Transfer Request**

Inmates were required to provide hardship documentation from immediate family members, remain disciplinary free, and have no job terminations to request a transfer to another geographical region at the annual review.

The disciplinary and job performance requirements remain the same; however, inmates will be able to request a transfer to another geographical region (NOT a specific institution) at the annual review without additional documentation. If a transfer is granted and a major disciplinary conviction is received, the inmate will be transferred and unable to request another transfer for 3 years.

**Security and Custody Levels**

Minimum Out (MO) Custody, Minimum Out Restricted (MR) Custody  
 Level 1  
 Minimum (MI) Custody  
 Level 2  
 Medium (ME) Custody  
 Level 3

Minimum Custody  
 Institutions will no longer will be identified by security level.  
 Medium Custody  
 Institutions will no longer will be identified by security level.  
 Close Custody  
 Institutions will no longer will be identified by security level.

**Requirements to be considered for the least Restrictive Custody**

Minimum Out (MO) Custody, Minimum Out Restricted (MR) Custody / Level 1  
 8 years or less to maxout  
 No convicted or pled down sex offenses  
 No dismissed/nolle prossed sex arrests within the past 10 years.  
 No category 4 - 5 open arrest detainees  
 No Hold or Wanted category 4 - 5 detainees.  
 No out-of-state/federal detainees (Wanted/Hold/Notify)  
 No ICE detainees  
 No validated Security Threat Group (STG) status  
 Must be a U.S. Citizen  
 No Unstable Out of State  
 No current violent offense with prior violent dominant commitment.  
 No Class I escapes. No Class II escapes within 10 years.

Minimum Custody  
 8 years or less to maxout  
 No convicted or pled down sex offenses  
 No dismissed/nolle prossed sex arrests within the past 7 years.  
 No category 4 - 5 open arrest detainees  
 No Hold or Wanted category 4 - 5 detainees.  
 No out-of-state/federal detainees (Wanted/Hold/Notify)  
 No ICE Detainers  
 No validated Security Threat Group (STG) status  
 Must be a U.S. Citizen  
 N/A  
 No current violent offense with prior violent dominant conviction.  
 No Class I escapes. No Class II escapes within 7 years.

**SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
**NEW CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM**  
**INMATE INFORMATION SHEET**



OLD CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

VS

NEW CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

**Inmates serving Life Sentences**

Lifers with parole eligibility were required to serve 10 years disciplinary free at a Level 3 facility before advancing to a lower level. Lifers without parole eligibility were not able to advance.

Inmates serving life sentences (with or without parole eligibility) will be considered for advancement to Medium custody after serving 7 years in SCDC.

**Privileges by Custody Level**

MINIMUM CUSTODY: 8 visits per month, unlimited telephone calls, \$150 per week canteen limit.

MEDIUM CUSTODY: 8 visits per month, 4 telephone calls per day, \$100 per week canteen limit.

CLOSE CUSTODY: 4 visits per month, 1 telephone call per day, \$50 per week canteen limit.

**Where will I be housed?**

Due to a reduction in level 3 (close custody) inmates and an increase in level 1 (minimum custody) inmates, some institutions will be changing levels and other institutions will house inmates of different custody levels (separated by dorm and/or cell).

**What will my custody be based on?**

There are two (2) types of assessments. The initial assessment (attachment #1) will be used if you have served less than 12 months in SCDC. The reassessment (attachment #2) will be used if you have completed 12 months or more in SCDC. Your score will be based on current and prior offenses, education, age, behavior, gang affiliation, and participation in work, education, and/or programs. If you do not meet the minimum requirements listed above, regardless of your score, you will not be eligible for Minimum or Medium custody. Other than the minimum requirements, the Institutional Classification Committee (ICC) may consider assigning you to a higher or lower custody level based on overall record and behavior.

**What score do I need to be considered for each custody level?**

Minimum Custody  
Medium Custody  
Close Custody

4 points or less (males) / 6 points or less (females)  
5 - 9 points (males) / 7 - 11 points (females)  
10 points or more (males) / 12 points or more (females)