

As Introduced

**136th General Assembly
Regular Session
2025-2026**

S. B. No. 466

Senator Blessing

To amend section 2967.194 of the Revised Code to	1
increase the availability of sentence reduction	2
credit a prisoner may receive for successfully	3
participating in specified programs.	4

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 2967.194 of the Revised Code be	5
amended to read as follows:	6

Sec. 2967.194. (A) (1) Beginning April 4, 2024, the	7
provisions of this section shall apply, in the manner described	8
in division (G) of this section, to persons confined on or after	9
that date in a state correctional institution or in the	10
substance use disorder treatment program.	11

(2) Except as provided in division (C) of this section and	12
subject to the maximum aggregate total specified in division (A)	13
(4) of this section, a person confined in a state correctional	14
institution or placed in the substance use disorder treatment	15
program may provisionally earn one day or five days of credit,	16
based on the category set forth in division (D) (1) or (2) of	17
this section in which the person is included, toward	18
satisfaction of the person's stated prison term, as described in	19
division (F) of this section, for each completed month during	20

which the person, if confined in a state correctional 21
institution, productively participates in an education program, 22
vocational training, employment in prison industries, treatment 23
for substance abuse, or any other constructive program developed 24
by the department of rehabilitation and correction with specific 25
standards for performance by prisoners or during which the 26
person, if placed in the substance use disorder treatment 27
program, productively participates in the program. Except as 28
provided in division (C) of this section and subject to the 29
maximum aggregate total specified in division (A) (4) of this 30
section, a person so confined in a state correctional 31
institution who successfully completes two programs or 32
activities of that type may, in addition, provisionally earn up 33
to five days of credit toward satisfaction of the person's 34
stated prison term, as described in division (F) of this 35
section, for the successful completion of the second program or 36
activity. The person shall not be awarded any provisional days 37
of credit for the successful completion of the first program or 38
activity or for the successful completion of any program or 39
activity that is completed after the second program or activity. 40
At the end of each calendar month in which a person productively 41
participates in a program or activity listed in this division or 42
successfully completes a program or activity listed in this 43
division, the department of rehabilitation and correction shall 44
determine and record the total number of days credit that the 45
person provisionally earned in that calendar month. If the 46
person in a state correctional institution violates prison rules 47
or the person in the substance use disorder treatment program 48
violates program or department rules, the department may deny 49
the person a credit that otherwise could have been provisionally 50
awarded to the person or may withdraw one or more credits 51
previously provisionally earned by the person. Days of credit 52

provisionally earned by a person shall be finalized and awarded 53
by the department subject to administrative review by the 54
department of the person's conduct. 55

~~(3)~~ (3) (a) Except as provided in division (C) of this 56
section, unless a person is serving a mandatory prison term or a 57
prison term for an offense of violence or a sexually oriented 58
offense, and notwithstanding the maximum aggregate total 59
specified in division (A) (4) of this section, a person who 60
successfully completes any diploma, equivalence, program, or 61
criteria identified in divisions (A) (3) ~~(a) to (g)~~ (b) (i) to (vii) 62
of this section shall earn ~~ninety days of credit~~ toward 63
satisfaction of the person's stated prison term as follows: 64

(i) For completing a diploma, equivalence, program, or 65
criteria identified in division (A) (3) (b) (i), (ii), (iii), (vi), 66
or (vii) of this section, ninety days of credit or a ten per 67
cent reduction of the person's stated prison term, whichever is 68
less, for each such diploma, equivalence, program, or criteria 69
successfully completed. ~~;~~ 70

(ii) For completing a program specified in division (A) (3) 71
(b) (iv) or (v) of this section, one hundred eighty days of 72
credit or a fifteen per cent reduction of the person's stated 73
prison term, whichever is less, for each program completed. 74

(b) The diplomas, equivalences, programs, and criteria for 75
which credit shall be granted under this division, upon 76
successful completion, are: 77

~~(a)~~ (i) An Ohio high school diploma or Ohio certificate of 78
high school equivalence certified by the Ohio central school 79
system; 80

~~(b)~~ (ii) A therapeutic drug community program; 81

~~(e)~~ (iii) All three phases of the department of 82
rehabilitation and correction's intensive outpatient drug 83
treatment program; 84

~~(d)~~ (iv) A career technical vocational school program; 85

~~(e)~~ (v) A college certification program; 86

~~(f)~~ (vi) The criteria for a certificate of achievement and 87
employability as specified in division (A) (1) of section 2961.22 88
of the Revised Code; 89

~~(g)~~ (vii) Any other constructive program developed by the 90
department of rehabilitation and correction with specific 91
standards for performance by prisoners. 92

(4) Except for persons described in division (A) (3) of 93
this section, the aggregate days of credit provisionally earned 94
by a person for program or activity participation and program 95
and activity completion under this section and the aggregate 96
days of credit finally credited to a person under this section 97
shall not exceed ~~fifteen~~ twenty-five per cent of the total 98
number of days in the person's stated prison term. 99

(B) The department of rehabilitation and correction shall 100
adopt rules that specify the programs or activities for which 101
credit may be earned under this section, the criteria for 102
determining productive participation in, or completion of, the 103
programs or activities and the criteria for awarding credit, 104
including criteria for awarding additional credit for successful 105
program or activity completion, and the criteria for denying or 106
withdrawing previously provisionally earned credit as a result 107
of a violation of prison rules, or program or department rules, 108
whichever is applicable. 109

(C) No person confined in a state correctional institution 110

or placed in a substance use disorder treatment program to whom 111
any of the following applies shall be awarded any days of credit 112
under division (A) (2) or (3) of this section: 113

(1) The person is serving a prison term that section 114
2929.13 or section 2929.14 of the Revised Code specifies cannot 115
be reduced pursuant to this section or this chapter or is 116
serving a sentence for which section 2967.13 or division (B) of 117
section 2929.143 of the Revised Code specifies that the person 118
is not entitled to any earned credit under this section. 119

(2) The person is sentenced to death or is serving a 120
prison term or a term of life imprisonment for aggravated 121
murder, murder, or a conspiracy or attempt to commit, or 122
complicity in committing, aggravated murder or murder. 123

(3) The person is serving a sentence of life imprisonment 124
without parole imposed pursuant to section 2929.03 or 2929.06 of 125
the Revised Code, a prison term or a term of life imprisonment 126
without parole imposed pursuant to section 2971.03 of the 127
Revised Code, or a sentence for a sexually oriented offense that 128
was committed on or after September 30, 2011. 129

(D) This division does not apply to a determination of 130
whether a person confined in a state correctional institution or 131
placed in a substance use disorder treatment program may earn 132
any days of credit under division (A) (2) of this section for 133
successful completion of a second program or activity. The 134
determination of whether a person confined in a state 135
correctional institution may earn one day of credit or five days 136
of credit under division (A) (2) of this section for each 137
completed month during which the person productively 138
participates in a program or activity specified under that 139
division shall be made in accordance with the following: 140

(1) The offender may earn one day of credit under division (A) (2) of this section, except as provided in division (C) of this section, if the offender is serving a stated prison term that includes a prison term imposed for a sexually oriented offense that the offender committed prior to September 30, 2011.

(2) Except as provided in division (C) of this section, if division (D) (1) of this section does not apply to the offender, the offender may earn five days of credit under division (A) (2) of this section.

(E) The department annually shall seek and consider the written feedback of the Ohio prosecuting attorneys association, the Ohio judicial conference, the Ohio public defender, the Ohio association of criminal defense lawyers, and other organizations and associations that have an interest in the operation of the corrections system and the earned credits program under this section as part of its evaluation of the program and in determining whether to modify the program.

(F) Days of credit awarded under this section shall be applied toward satisfaction of a person's stated prison term as follows:

(1) Toward the definite prison term of a prisoner serving a definite prison term as a stated prison term;

(2) Toward the minimum and maximum terms of a prisoner serving an indefinite prison term imposed under division (A) (1) (a) or (2) (a) of section 2929.14 of the Revised Code for a felony of the first or second degree committed on or after March 22, 2019.

(G) The provisions of this section apply to persons confined in a state correctional institution or in the substance

use disorder treatment program on or after April 4, 2024, as 170
follows: 171

(1) Subject to division (G) (2) of this section, the 172
provisions apply to a person so confined regardless of whether 173
the person committed the offense for which the person is 174
confined in the institution or was placed in the program prior 175
to, on, or after April 4, 2024, and regardless of whether the 176
person was convicted of or pleaded guilty to that offense prior 177
to, on, or after April 4, 2024. 178

(2) The provisions apply to a person so confined only with 179
respect to the time that the person is so confined on and after 180
April 4, 2024, and the provisions of section 2967.193 of the 181
Revised Code that were in effect prior to April 4, 2024, and 182
that applied to the person prior to that date, including the 183
provisions of division (A) (4) of that section as amended by ~~this~~ 184
~~act~~ H.B. 33 of the 135th general assembly, apply to the person 185
with respect to the time that the person was so confined prior 186
to April 4, 2024. 187

(H) As used in this section: 188

(1) "Sexually oriented offense" has the same meaning as in 189
section 2950.01 of the Revised Code. 190

(2) "Substance use disorder treatment program" means the 191
substance use disorder treatment program established by the 192
department of rehabilitation and correction under section 193
5120.035 of the Revised Code. 194

Section 2. That existing section 2967.194 of the Revised 195
Code is hereby repealed. 196