

Educational and enrichment programs are currently available in one form or another to the entire population of inmates at Santa Rita Jail. Minimum and Medium security, Protective Custody, and Mental Health classifications are all able to enroll in classes provided in either their respective housing units, or in the Sandy Turner Educational Center (STEC I & II). Certain other classifications, by definition, need to have more limited direct access to civilian teachers and volunteers (i.e. inmates in administrative isolation). These populations can request to be served through our independent study program. Classes inside the housing units are held in the multi-purpose rooms. These rooms are limited in size, and only one is available to classes in each housing unit, therefore these classes are limited to 12 seats per class session. Classes held in Housing Unit 25 (HU 25) are open to 25 seats as there is a larger classroom available in that particular unit. Sandy Turner I (STEC I) contains 5 classrooms and supports class sizes from 12 to 25 inmates. Sandy Turner II (STEC II) contains 4 classrooms, all of which can support 24 seats per class. Classes in each location are held three times daily, Monday through Friday. The class session times are 0800-0945, 1000-1145, and 1300-1445 hours. The one exception to these times and locations is the Saturday visiting component of the male and female Parenting class. These visits are held each Saturday in the Santa Rita Jail Transition Center between 0800 and 1200 hours.

Additionally, there are Narcotics Anonymous (NA) and Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) classes offered for our male and female populations in Housing Units 21, 24, and 25. These classes are held in the multi-purpose rooms in the respective housing units. The women's NA classes are offered in Housing unit 24 the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Thursdays of the month from 1930-2030 hours. The women's AA classes for Housing Unit 24 are offered Saturdays at 1330 hours, and the women's AA classes for Housing Unit 21 are offered Saturdays at 1000 hours. The men's AA classes for Housing Unit 25 are offered the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Tuesdays of the month from 1900-2030 hours. The men's NA classes are offered the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Thursdays of each month from 1930-2030 hours.

To apply for programs, inmates complete a programs application which details which classes they are interested in taking. The completed application is then forwarded to Inmate Services, where the application is recorded and the inmate is pre-screened for eligibility based on their current classification and recent disciplinary history. A pre-screened list is then submitted on a weekly basis to the Santa Rita Jail Classification Unit where each inmate is fully screened and either approved or denied for participation in programs. A Classification Deputy then sends a list of approved inmates back to Inmate Services, and the inmates are added to the class rosters as space allows.

Alameda County Library Services provides reading material to everyone incarcerated. Library Services also provides a tutoring program and independent studies. Inmates classified Administrative Isolation can participate in independent studies, however they do not participate in the tutoring program since they cannot be in physical contact with the instructors due to their classification.