

NATIONAL  
**PREA**  
RESOURCE  
CENTER

**IMPACT/JUSTICE**  
*A National Innovation and Research Center*

**Power Hour:**  
Chat with a PREA Expert

*PREA Standard 115.33 – Inmate/Resident Education*

May 9, 2019

# Welcome and Introductions



**Michelle Duhart**

**Senior Project Manager**

The National Prison Rape Elimination  
Act Resource Center (PRC)

# The National PREA Resource Center

The mission of the PRC is to assist adult prisons and jails, juvenile facilities, lockups, community corrections and tribal facilities in their efforts to eliminate sexual abuse by increasing their capacity for prevention, detection, monitoring, responses to incidents and services to victims and their families.

## Technical Support

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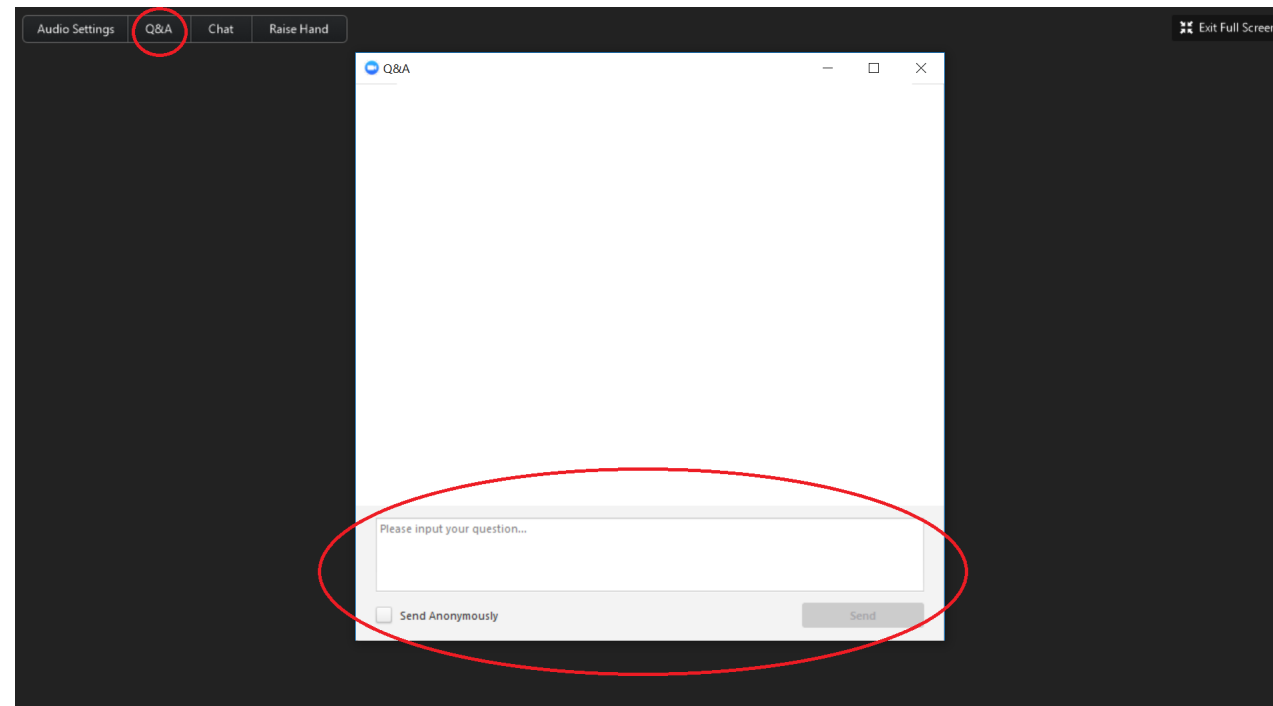
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## Submitting Questions

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# Presenter



## Sarah True

**Program Manager II**

The National Prison Rape Elimination  
Act Resource Center (PRC)

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## Standard Requirements

- (a) During the intake process, inmates shall receive **information** explaining the agency's zero-tolerance policy regarding sexual abuse and sexual harassment and how to report incidents or suspicions of sexual abuse or sexual harassment.
- (b) Within 30 days of intake, the agency shall provide **comprehensive education** to inmates either in person or through video regarding their rights to be free from sexual abuse and sexual harassment and to be free from retaliation for reporting such incidents, and regarding agency policies and procedures for responding to such incidents.

## Standard Requirements

- (c) Current inmates who have not received such education shall be educated within one year of the effective date of the PREA standards, and **shall receive education upon transfer** to a different facility to the extent that the policies and procedures of the inmate's new facility differ from those of the previous facility.
- (d) The agency shall provide inmate education in formats **accessible to all inmates**, including those who are limited English proficient, deaf, visually impaired, or otherwise disabled, as well as to inmates who have limited reading skills.
- (e) The agency shall maintain **documentation** of inmate participation in these education sessions.



## Standard Requirements

- (f) In addition to providing such education, the agency shall ensure that **key information is continuously and readily available** or visible to inmates through posters, inmate handbooks, or other written formats.

## Participant Poll

***Question:***

Which of these three categories do you think 115.33 falls into?

- Prevention
- Detection
- Response

## Purpose of the Standard

The goal of providing inmate education is to:

- **Prevent** sexual abuse and sexual harassment
- Encourage reporting by:
  - Teaching inmates about their **right to be free** from sexual abuse and sexual harassment
  - Educating them about **the ways they can report it**
  - Making sure they understand **what will happen if there is an incident** of sexual abuse or sexual harassment, including what services are available to victims.

## Purpose of the Standard

Inmate education can build inmates' trust in staff and the facility's commitment to safety, which may **increase reporting and ultimately deter sexual abuse and sexual harassment.**

## Purpose of the Standard

Inmate education is **only effective if it is provided in ways that inmates understand and remember** when they need it, and it must be made understandable to the most vulnerable inmates in the facility, who may face some barriers to accessing written information, spoken information, or information in English.

## Implementation

- The standard requires the facility to provide **basic, critical information to every inmate upon intake**. This information must include some verbal and/or written statement of the facility's **no-tolerance policy** toward sexual abuse and sexual harassment and clear information about the **ways to report** sexual abuse and sexual harassment, both internally and externally, including any phone numbers or addresses they would need to report externally.
- This information is only useful if it is provided in a manner that **all inmates receive and understand**, and receipt of the information must be documented for every inmate who enters the facility.

## Implementation

- The standard also requires that the facility deliver more complete education about sexual safety, such as the **dynamics of sexual abuse** in a confinement setting and **how to stay safe**, and the **facility's policies and procedures** related to sexual abuse and sexual harassment, with clear information about **how to report** and **what happens with every report** of sexual abuse and sexual harassment, within 30 days of intake.
- This education should also include **information about any victim services available to inmates in the facility**. The facility must develop a system to document that every inmate receives this comprehensive education within the appropriate time period.

## Implementation

- The standard requires that all information provided to inmates regarding sexual safety and PREA be **accessible regardless of ability and language**. So, inmates who are limited English proficient, are deaf, visually impaired, disabled, including inmates with mental illness, or have limited reading skills must get both the information provided at intake and the more complete education in a manner they can understand.
  - Staff should be prepared to read written information out loud.
  - Written information should be clear and provided at an appropriate reading-level for most inmates.
  - Translators and interpreters must be available when needed to assist deaf and non-English speaking inmates to learn the information.



## Implementation

- Written information should be clear and provided at an appropriate reading-level for most inmates.
- Mental health staff may have to be involved in providing the required information to inmates with serious mental illnesses.
- The standard requires that inmates be provided with inmate education—both critical information at intake and more comprehensive education within 30 days—**upon transfer to a different facility**, even if it is a different facility in the same agency, to the extent that any policies and procedures are different in the new facility.
- Even an inmate who is newly admitted to a facility where he or she has been previously incarcerated must get the information **again**.

## Implementation

- Even an inmate who is newly admitted to a facility where he or she has been previously incarcerated must get the information again.
- The purpose of this requirement is to ensure that inmates get up-to-date information about the specific dynamics, policies, and procedures for the facility where they are currently incarcerated and are reminded of it so they can use it if they need it.
  - Finally, critical information must be **continuously available** in some form—posters, handouts, handbook—so that inmates can access it when they need it. That would include any phone numbers or addresses inmates need to either report an incident of sexual abuse or sexual harassment, and any outside counseling that is available

## Participant Poll

### *Question:*

How do you make information continuously available at your facility?

- Posters
- Brochures
- Inmate/Resident Handbook
- We haven't implemented this yet
- Other (add your response to the comments!)

## Challenges

- Intake can be a **stressful** time for inmates and can tax staff resources. Adding the delivery of information about PREA into an already busy and stressful intake procedure in a manner that inmates will understand and remember, and in a manner that encourages trust in the facility's plans to protect inmates, may be difficult. **It requires thoughtful planning to ensure that there is a period of time during which inmates can absorb the information.** It requires thorough training of intake staff, and the development of clear and simple written resources and video or scripted information that will be consistently provided to every inmate who comes through the door.

## Challenges

- It is critical to ensure that **staff who is responsible for providing the education fully understand the material**, can demonstrate a commitment to the values and objectives of PREA, and are able to convey the information in a manner that is meaningful to inmates.
- It is particularly important that **anyone who provides the more comprehensive education about sexual safety have sensitivity to the subject matter and a deep understanding of the dynamics of sexual abuse in confinement**. This means that the facility should identify staff who have the capacity to do this well and ensure they are well trained.
- Information that is provided in a handout form or inmate handbook, such as phone numbers and addresses, as well as policies and procedures, often gets lost. Material should be available in an ongoing way to all inmates in the facility so that they can access it if they need it.

## Challenges

- Inmates and staff often misunderstand the difference between a phone number or address to which inmates can **report sexual abuse externally** (pursuant to standard 115.51(b)), and a phone number or address an inmate can use to **access confidential emotional support externally** (pursuant to standard 115.53).
- It is critical that it is clear when inmate education is delivered which phone numbers or addresses are being made available for the purpose of making an external report that will result in an investigation, and which are available to provide confidential emotional support and do not require an inmate to provide his or her name nor to make a report.
- **Staff must understand this first in order to properly convey the distinction to inmates the facility so that they can access it if they need it.**

## Challenges

- In the absence of clear information to all inmates about the availability of confidential emotional support services external to the agency (pursuant to standard 115.53), inmates are often not able to access these services unless they have already made a report.
- However, the purpose of making these services available is to encourage inmates to access them, **especially inmates who may need the support before they feel ready to make a report.** Inmate education is critical to ensuring that all inmates in the facility know these services are available.

## Best Practices

- It is a recommended practice that **a staff member or peer educator present inmate education in person and distribute supplemental materials to inmates**, even if a video is part of the intake information or comprehensive education. The facility should **designate staff educators**. They can be custody staff, case managers, mental health staff, or non-custody staff.
- Staff educators should become their **facility's experts** and be responsible for keeping up-to-date on policies and practices related to sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response. They can support the role of the PREA Coordinator or PREA Compliance Manager. The facility staff educator should be a person who has an interest and commitment to providing quality inmate education, a desire to make the facility safer, and is committed to the PREA standards.



## Best Practices

- The use of inmate **peer educators** to provide comprehensive education about sexual abuse and sexual harassment has been highly successful in some facilities and agencies. There is **FAQ guidance on the PRC website** that describes what the facility must ensure in order to use peer educators—that they are screened, trained, and supervised—and in what circumstances a peer educator who is over 18 can provide education to someone who is under 18. Any facility considering using peer educators to provide PREA-related information should read DOJ’s FAQ guidance carefully.

## Best Practices

- It can be very difficult to provide understandable education to inmates who are seriously mentally ill or have significant cognitive disabilities. While not specifically required, it is recommended that **qualified mental health staff and/or educators be called upon to provide PREA information** and education in a manner that is sensitive to these communication barriers in order to ensure that the facility meets its requirements under this standard and standard 115.16.

## Best Practices

- Consider using inmate **bulletin boards, newsletters, and leadership groups** such as inmate advisory councils to distribute new information (e.g. pamphlets or brochures). Make sure inmates have an opportunity to ask questions and know how they can get more information. Additionally, it could be most effective for facilities to develop a stand-alone course on sexual abuse prevention for current inmates based on housing unit, inmate number, and/or intake date.
- Written materials should be in **language that is accessible to people with limited literacy.**

## Best Practices

- Attempt to obtain an agreement or memorandum of understanding (MOU) with **local, community-based victim services providers to deliver certain pieces of the comprehensive inmate education**. Victim service providers have specialized knowledge on key topics covered in inmate education courses, especially trauma and the dynamics of sexual violence, and are **adept at providing prevention education** to the community on such topics. Victim services providers are also uniquely qualified to handle disclosures of abuse that may come up during a session.
- Finally, if the facility has succeeded in establishing an MOU with a victim service provider to handle confidential emotional support services through a hotline or address, that provider is best positioned to explain the services they provide directly to inmates.

## Best Practices

- While the standard only requires that inmates be provided information at intake and then again within 30- days from intake in a more comprehensive manner, **there is nothing to prevent a facility from doing more.** Facilities may also find it beneficial to offer annual refreshers to inmates who have remained at the same facility for extended periods of time. Such refreshers affirm the facility's commitment to eliminating sexual abuse and sexual harassment, and ensure all inmates have the most up-to-date information.
- One highly effective approach to sexual abuse education is to incorporate it into an **overall health education program.** PREA education can be incorporated into existing education and programs for chronic illness, medications management, HIV, alcohol and drug addictions.

## Participant Poll

***Question:***

Has your facility been audited before?

- Yes
- No
- Our audit is in-process

## Audit issues

- Auditors will review **all written material** that is provided to inmates during intake and during comprehensive education sessions related to PREA, including **posters, handouts,** and the inmate **handbook**. In addition, auditors will review written inmate education **curricula** and view any **videos** that are shown related to PREA at intake or during comprehensive education.
- Auditors will review written **records or logs** to verify that the facility has documented that every inmate in the facility received the necessary information during intake and the more comprehensive education within 30 days of intake.
- Auditors will verify that inmates who did not receive education at intake and comprehensive education pursuant to 115.33(c) to ensure they have been educated.

## Audit issues

- Auditors will **interview staff** who provide the information at intake and also the comprehensive education to ensure that they understand the information and have a thorough knowledge of everything they are required to convey.
- Auditors will **interview a random sample of line-staff** to ensure that they understand enough to be able to answer questions about the facility's no-tolerance policy, reporting mechanisms, including any external hotlines or addresses, and what victim services are available to inmates.
- Auditors will interview a **random sample of inmates** in the facility to ensure that they received the information and education required in a manner that they were able to understand.



## Audit issues

- Auditors will **interview inmates who are limited English proficient, deaf, vision impaired, mentally ill, or otherwise disabled** to ensure that they were provided with the required PREA information at intake and more comprehensive education in manners that they could understand.
- Auditors will interview **inmates in segregation** and other special housing units to ensure they also received the required inmate education.
- Auditors will review the **agency's policy** requiring that inmates transferred from one facility to another be educated regarding their rights to be free from both sexual abuse/harassment and retaliation for reporting such incidents. They will **interview inmates who have been transferred** when they identify them in the facility to ensure that this information and education was provided as required.

# §115.33/133/233/333

## Inmate/Resident Education

### PREA AND INMATE EDUCATION

A RESOURCE GUIDE  
2016

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JUST DETENTION  
INTERNATIONAL

Helpful resource available at:

<https://www.prearesourcecenter.org/sites/default/files/library/preaandinmateeducation-resourceguide.pdf>

## Resources

- **Frequently Asked Questions** (FAQs) on the PREA Resource Center (PRC) Website
- **PREA Essentials** on the National PREA Resource Center Webpage:  
<https://www.prearesourcecenter.org/training-technical-assistance/PREA-essentials>
- **Archived Webinar Slides:**
  - Laying the Groundwork: PREA and Inmate Education in Prisons (Part 1 of 2):  
<https://www.prearesourcecenter.org/sites/default/files/library/webinarslidesinmateedforprisonspart1112712.pdf>
  - Crafting Your Program: PREA and Inmate Education in Jails (Part 2 of 2):  
<https://www.prearesourcecenter.org/sites/default/files/library/inmateedforjails2webinarmaster.pdf>

## Resources

- **PREA Standard in Focus 115.16 Inmates with disabilities and inmates who are limited English proficient:**  
[www.prearesourcecenter.org/sites/default/files/library/115.16%20SIF%20%282%29.pdf](http://www.prearesourcecenter.org/sites/default/files/library/115.16%20SIF%20%282%29.pdf)
  - Power Hour: Chat with a PREA Expert - 115.16 Inmates with disabilities and inmates who are limited English proficient: [www.prearesourcecenter.org/training-and-technical-assistance/webinars/5654/power-hour-chat-prea-expert-11516-inmates](http://www.prearesourcecenter.org/training-and-technical-assistance/webinars/5654/power-hour-chat-prea-expert-11516-inmates)
- **PREA Standard in Focus 115.51 Inmate reporting:**  
[www.prearesourcecenter.org/sites/default/files/library/115.51%20SIF.pdf](http://www.prearesourcecenter.org/sites/default/files/library/115.51%20SIF.pdf)
  - Power Hour: Chat with a PREA Expert - 115.51 Inmate Reporting: [www.prearesourcecenter.org/training-and-technical-assistance/webinars/5610/power-hour-chat-prea-expert-11551-inmate-reporting](http://www.prearesourcecenter.org/training-and-technical-assistance/webinars/5610/power-hour-chat-prea-expert-11551-inmate-reporting)

## Resources

Always check the following sources for excellent training on PREA.

- **National Institute of Corrections (NIC)**
  - <http://nicic.gov/training/prea>
- **End Silence:** The Project on Addressing Prison Rape
  - <https://www.wcl.american.edu/endsilence/>

# Questions & Answers



# PRC Library

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A project of NCCD

ABOUT | LIBRARY | TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE | NEWS & EVENTS | FAQ

Search the PREA Library for Articles and Resources:

Keyword

**LEGAL**

 In this section of the library you will find information about the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 and related laws and legal issues.  
[See all Legal articles >](#)

**NEWS COVERAGE**

 In this section of the library you will find all PREA-related news articles, including news about the law, implementation of standards, and federal and local initiatives.  
[See all News Coverage articles >](#)

**POLICY & PRACTICE**

 In this section of the library you will find sample PREA-related policies and PREA policy development guides.  
[See all Policy & Practice articles >](#)

**RESEARCH**

 In this section of the library you will find federally funded and academic reports and articles on a range of PREA-related topics.  
[See all Research articles >](#)

**RESOURCES**

 In this section of the library you will find tools such as training materials, handbooks, policy development toolkits, and a list of resources for survivors.  
[See all Resources articles >](#)

**STANDARDS**

 In this section of the library you will find the federal PREA standards and information about the development, implementation, compliance with, and enforcement of the standards.  
[See all Standards articles >](#)



**BREAKING NEWS:** The Department of Justice's national PREA standards were released on May 17, 2012. Read the final standards [here](#).

## Welcome!

The PREA Resource Center (PRC) is working to address sexual safety in confinement, and to assist state and local jurisdictions with implementation of the Department of Justice [national PREA standards](#). Visit the library for research and guidance on implementation of the standards; the Training and Technical Assistance section of the website to learn about the PRC's four strategies for assisting the field with PREA implementation; and [sign up for upcoming webinars here](#).

## Need Help?

The PREA Resource Center provides training and technical assistance to adult and juvenile corrections and law enforcement agencies seeking to prevent, detect, and respond to sexual abuse in confinement.

[REQUEST ASSISTANCE >](#)

Resources for survivors and their families are available [here](#).



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# Field Initiated TTA Request

- Targeted TTA
- Request for Assistance
- BJA Demonstration Sites
- PREA in Action
- PREA 101
- Upcoming Webinars
- Archived Webinars

## Request for Assistance

Fill out the form below in order to request PREA-related training and/or technical assistance for your jurisdiction or agency.

Name of jurisdiction/agency making request:

Name and position/title of person making request:

### Contact Information of Requester

Address:

City/Town:

State:

ZIP:

Email:

Phone:

Point of contact for the jurisdiction/agency:

Statement of Problem:

Describe, as specifically as possible, the condition or issue for which the TTA is requested.

Previous Efforts:

Have there been any previous attempts to address the condition or issue for which the TTA is requested? If so, what action(s) were taken and what were the results?

Training and Technical Assistance:

Describe what type of training or technical assistance you would like to receive.

Targeted Audience/Recipients:

Search the PREA  
Library for Articles  
and Resources:

Keyword

SEARCH

### Sign Up for Updates

The PREA Resource Center will provide information on upcoming events, new resources to our library, and PREA-related issues in the news through its newsletter. Sign up to receive our newsletter via email.

Email  SIGNUP

Jurisdictions can request assistance by completing a web form on the PRC website under the Training and Technical Assistance tab and clicking **“Request for Assistance”** on the sidebar.

<https://www.prearesourcecenter.org/>



For more information about the  
**National PREA Resource Center**,  
visit [www.prearesourcecenter.org](http://www.prearesourcecenter.org).

To ask a question, please visit our  
[Contact Us](#) page.

**Michela Bowman**

PRC Co-Director

**[mbowman@prearesourcecenter.org](mailto:mbowman@prearesourcecenter.org)**

**Jenni Trovillion**

PRC Co-Director

**[jtrovillion@prearesourcecenter.org](mailto:jtrovillion@prearesourcecenter.org)**

**Michelle Duhart**

Sr. Program Manager

Training & Technical Assistance

**[mduhart@prearesourcecenter.org](mailto:mduhart@prearesourcecenter.org)**

# Thank you!

An email will be sent to you following this event with a link to provide feedback. Your input is important and will help to plan and coordinate future events and resources.

Sign up for our [mailing list](#) to be the first to hear about our next **Power Hour: Chat with a PREA Expert!**

# Bureau of Justice Assistance

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