



# Top 10 Questions Asked at...

## Lehigh County CCJ

### **1. Why didn't my money and identification come with me?**

It is the responsibility of the Department of Corrections' state correctional institution (SCI) to release your documents (identification) and money to you. The SCIs often send these items in the U.S. mail after your discharge from their facility.

### **2. How long will I be here?**

After you secure a viable home plan, approved by a state parole agent, you will be discharged.

### **3. Am I able to drive my vehicle while I am a resident at this facility?**

Reentrants have to secure approval from the warden and their assigned state parole officer in order to have that privilege. Reentrants also need to provide proof of insurance and a valid driver's license.

### **4. I don't have any family or resources here. Can I parole to a different state?**

Yes you can parole to another state. However, you will be required to complete an interstate compact agreement and submit the required fee before the document can be addressed. Additionally, there is no guarantee the transfer will be approved. This approval process can take several months.

### **5. Why does it take so long for home plans to be approved?**

Our facility does not have any control over this process. Home plans are investigated by parole agents who must conduct site visits to the proposed place of residence. The approval process typically takes between 14-28 days.

### **6. May I have a cell phone while I am here?**

You must submit a request for a cell phone locker. You may have a phone, but they are not allowed in the facility and must be kept in a locker in clear sight of the officers. Reentrants with cell phones inside the facility are considered to have contraband and the phone will be confiscated.

### **7. How does the privilege system work? What happens if I return late?**

Reentrants can earn privileges (increased furlough hours) by simply following the program rules. Reentrants need to be aware that they willingly signed a document which indicates they will follow the rules of the program, and understand there are consequences for rule infractions.

### **8. Why can't I collect food stamps while I am here? The last time I was paroled to a center, I could have these things?**

Food is provided at the facility. After you secure a home plan and are released from the facility custody, you may be eligible for food stamps. Reentrants are encouraged to apply at that time.

**9. I have been paroled. How come I can be restricted for “small stuff”? I already did my time?**

You have been paroled. However, this does not excuse you from following the rules and regulations of the facility. Failure to abide by these rules is an infraction. You can be arrested for such infractions. This information is discussed with you during the initial intake process.

**10. What happens if I can't find a job or can't work because of a disability?**

Virtually every parolee has secured a job while they are at this facility. Reentrants need to remember their discharge from the center is based on getting a job and having a home plan approved. If you are disabled or have issues that prevent you from seeking full time employment, the center can send you to the social security administration to identify possible resources to help you.