

ARKANSAS BOARD OF PAROLE

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Parole 101 – A Quick Guide to the Parole Process

The information contained in this document is not an exhaustive description of the Parole process. This document is provided solely as a courtesy for interested parties. For further information please contact our office or the Institutional Release Officer (IRO) at the unit where the individual is incarcerated.

The Inmate:

1. Will receive written notice of his/her hearing or screening. That notice will describe the type of hearing they will have among other relevant information.
2. Will have the right to have an attorney or other interested persons attend his/her hearing. Those individuals should arrive at the unit at least 1 hour prior to the scheduled start time. If the inmate chooses to have individuals speak at his/her hearing, one individual must be designated as the spokesperson. The Commissioner, or Hearing Examiner, conducting the hearing may allow others to speak if they possess relevant testimony.
3. Will be entitled to present any relevant documentary evidence in his/her possession at the time of his/her hearing. The Board reserves the right to require documentation be notarized and/or be placed on an official letterhead if it deems those actions necessary.
4. May request copies of any statements or recommendations from law enforcement, the Prosecutor, or other public officials prior to his/her hearing. Such requests must be made in writing at least 7 days prior to the scheduled hearing.
5. Will be notified at the conclusion of his/her hearing of the date when the Board's decision will be released.

Other Information:

1. The Arkansas Board Parole, in consultation with the Department of Correction, will conduct hearings via video as deemed appropriate. The Board member conducting the hearing via video will have available, all information that would be available to any Board member present at the hearing. The normal process will still be followed in these cases.
2. Visitors attending a parole hearing must follow the Department of Correction's guidelines for proper grooming and attire.
3. Visitors attending a parole hearing will be required to pass through a metal detector and may be subjected to a physical pat-down.
4. Adult visitors attending a parole hearing must possess a valid state-issued ID in order to be admitted into the hearing. Minors must be accompanied by an adult in order to be admitted.