

*This has helped me in many ways. I've been able to **learn new skills**, also giving me a chance to **better myself in ways** I had never thought of.*

*.... a great opportunity to get some control back in my life and it has **decreased my stress levels**. It has also given me **a sense of achievement** when my debt has been lessened and eventually cleared **giving me a second chance**.*

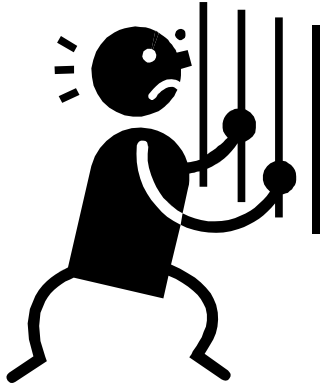
Testimonial from a Silverwater Women's Correctional Centre inmate who participated in the WDO pilot project.



Have you got a
debt
with the State Debt
Recovery Office?

We can help.





What is a WDO?

A Work and Development Order (WDO) is made by the State Debt Recovery Office (SDRO). **A WDO enables eligible people to wipe out their fine debt through certain courses or treatments.**

Corrective Services NSW is now an approved organisation to administer the WDO scheme in most Correctional Centres.

Am I eligible for a WDO?

CSNSW is an approved organisation to administer the WDO scheme in correctional centres to people who have any of the following criteria:

- **A mental illness**
- **An intellectual disability or cognitive impairment**
- **A serious addiction to drugs, alcohol or volatile substances.**

You will be identified through the normal screening and assessment processes that identify you as eligible for the programs and services available in gaols.

The proof that you meet the criteria to do a WDO while you are in gaol is probably already in your case file.

What sort of debts can I reduce or pay off?

Participating in a WDO approved program can help you **pay off any debts incurred through official fines** issued by local councils, the Police, NSW Roads and Maritime Services (formerly the RTA), Courts and Sheriff's Office, Rail Corp State Transit Authority, WorkCover, NSW Fair Trading, etc.

Examples include:

- parking fines
- fare evasion
- smoking in smoke-free areas
- littering
- drinking alcohol in a dry zone,
- court fines
- driving an unregistered car

How much of my state debt can I pay off?

By participating in a certain programs or services on a WDO, **you may be able to wipe up to \$50 p/hour off your debt, with a maximum reduction of \$1000 p/month.** This is worked out by the SDRO.

Depending on how much debt you have, you may be able to work off all or most of it.

What about enforcement actions?

No enforcement action will be taken against a person while a WDO is active, but only for the debts gathered into the WDO.

What type of approved activities contribute towards a WDO?

The approved WDO activities include:

- **educational, vocational or life skills courses;**
- **financial or other counseling;** or
- **drug or alcohol treatment.**

How can I find more information?

Offender Services and Programs staff members can apply for you to do a WDO while you are participating in certain programs and services.

