

Transitional Release Program – Program eligibility / the application process

ACT Corrective Services

Who can apply for the Transitional Release Program?

To take part in the Transitional Release Program (TRP), detainees at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) must meet specific eligibility requirements. They must have:

- a minimum-security classification
- an Incentives and Earned Privileges (IEP) level of *standard* or *enhanced*
- 24 months or less remaining on their non-parole period (if sentence is more than five years)
- 12 months or less remaining on their non-parole period (if sentence is more than 12 months but less than five years)
- a head sentence greater than 12 months
- actively participated in the programs identified in their case management plan
- completed all offence-specific interventions specified in their case management plan
- no positive drug test in the previous six months
- no internal disciplinary actions in the previous six months
- no outstanding criminal legal matters (including interstate charges or appeals)
- no immigration hold, visa cancellation notice or planned extradition
- an approved licence, with a determined release date, if they are on a life sentence

Detainees who do not meet these criteria cannot apply for the TRP.

What information is included in a TRP application?

If eligible, the detainee's Case Manager helps prepare and submit the application. A TRP application includes:

- a detailed risk assessment
- offence-related information
- evidence of participation in criminogenic programs and/or interventions (if relevant)
- a statement from the detainee explaining why they want to apply for the TRP
- a description of the detainee's reintegration needs and goals

- a behaviour summary for the previous six months
- potential community sponsors (if approved)
- options for employment in the community
- any other relevant information

Other information ACTCS may collect for the TRP application:

- statement(s) from registered victim(s). Statements are not provided to the detainee
- intelligence information

Can registered victims comment on a TRP application?

Yes. Registered victims can provide a statement. ACTCS collects these statements and adds them to the application. Staff from Victim Support ACT's Victims Register support victims in preparing statements. All statements are considered when the application is accessed. Statements are not provided to the detainee.

Who makes the decision about a TRP application?

A panel of ACT Corrective Services staff from different areas review all TRP applications and make recommendations to the Assistant Commissioner, Custodial operations, who makes the ultimate decision.

How long does the TRP application process take?

Processing times vary but typically take 7-10 weeks to process, from start to finish.

Can the decision about the TRP application be appealed?

Yes. The detainee may appeal the decision made about their application in accordance with the Detainee Requests and Complaints Policy. Registered victims have the right to appeal any decision to approve a detainee's application for transitional release insofar as the decision may affect them.

Should a registered victim wish to lodge an appeal, they may do so via Victim Support ACT's Victims Register.

Are registered victims notified of the outcomes of an application?

Yes. ACTCS Staff will notify the ACT Victims Register and staff from Victim Support ACT's Victims Register will notify registered victims of the decision.

If approved, when are they relocated to the Transitional Release Centre (TRC)?

Usually within two weeks of approval.