

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES
SEARCH COMMITTEE FOR YOUTH SERVICES BOARD
ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING APPLICATIONS
TO FILL THE POSITION OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Executive Director of the Alabama Department of Youth Services is a full time position that reports to the Youth Services Board. The Executive Director oversees all operations of the Alabama Department of Youth Services (“the Department”). Minimum qualifications for the position include a Master’s degree in behavioral or social science or a related field from an accredited school; at least six years’ experience in the field of services to children and youth, with at least three years of that experience being in the field of juvenile delinquency services. The last three years of such experience must have been in an administrative and/or management position with demonstrated competence as indicated by promotion or other indications of responsibility.

The Department is the state’s juvenile correctional agency. While primary responsibilities are the operation of the state’s juvenile correctional facilities at the Mt. Meigs, Vacca and Autauga Campuses and maintaining adequate additional bed space resources through contracts with private providers, the agency’s scope of operations is actually a much broader mix of activities. These operations include, for example, the operation of an accredited Public School District, licensing public and private juvenile facilities and programs, providing incentives to local jurisdictions to develop diversion options for low risk offenders, funding alternative school programs, responsibility for specific programs such as the juvenile sex offender treatment program (ABSOP) and the specialized critical intervention program for girls (W.O.W.), consultation with local and private facilities regarding the implementation of the Prison Rape Elimination Act and responsibility for the Interstate Compact for Juveniles. Additional information regarding population statistics, Division Programs and budgeting activities can be found on the Department’s web site at www.dys.alabama.gov.

STATEMENT OF THE BOARD:

The Youth Services Board is particularly interested in attracting applicants who can not only work within this core, traditional juvenile corrections system structure but, applicants who will be able to continue to shift the agency’s focus to local diversion programs allowing increased options for local juvenile court judges to keep young offenders in their homes and provide effective treatment programming in their home communities. The Board has supported the Agency’s efforts in the recent statewide juvenile justice system reform work and expects the Department to remain in the forefront of developing local options for juvenile courts by expanding local “best practices” treatment options for young offenders.

Additionally, the Board has strongly supported enhanced programming within the Department’s institutions which has fundamentally changed the way Alabama treats its committed youth. The Department clearly established a goal to move away from traditional custody and control

programming toward more rehabilitative treatment oriented programming. The catalyst for that change has come from committed Youth Services staff and partnerships established with groups such as the Alabama Writer's Forum, the Auburn University Psychology Department, The University of Alabama School of Social Work, Troy University, University of Alabama School of Psychology, Cornell University's CARE program and others who have been invited into our institutions to engage in research, program development, training and program operations. Information regarding these partnerships and recognition for these efforts can be found on our web site.

The Board is also interested in applicants who can maintain the hard earned support of the Alabama Legislature. The Department has experienced several years of reduced funding due to the state of the economy and reduced state revenues. However, the support of the members of the legislature has continued to be strong due to the conservative management of our resources and our focus on respect for the funds the taxpayers have provided.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Submit a State of Alabama Employment Application (found at www.personnel.alabama.gov)
- Submit a copy of all college transcripts
- Submit a copy of your resume and cover letter
- Submit two letters of recommendation confirming successful work experience requirements
- Submit two letters of recommendation confirming personal commitment, character and attributes relevant to this position
- Mail all materials requested to:

T. Dudley Perry, Jr.
General Counsel
Alabama Department of Youth Services
P.O. Box 66
Mt. Meigs, AL 36057

Applications and all materials must be received no later than **MARCH 21, 2014.**