

# Katherine Corrections Skills and Training Centre

## What is the Katherine Corrections Skills and Training Centre?

In partnership with CDU, the Katherine Corrections Skills and Training Centre is a national first initiative that blends rehabilitation, vocational education and employment pathways to support regional economic development and break the cycle of reoffending.

## Where will the Katherine Corrections Skills and Training Centre be located?

The Katherine Corrections Skills and Training Centre will be established at the Charles Darwin University (CDU) Rural Campus in Katherine.

The site layout is being planned to balance security and operational considerations – including a secure perimeter fence.

## Who will attend the Katherine Corrections Skills and Training Centre?

The Katherine Corrections Skills and Training Centre will be attended by low and open security adult men with connections to the Big Rivers region who meet strict selection criteria.

## How will the Katherine Corrections and Skills Training Centre benefit the Big Rivers region?

Prisoners will participate in accredited education and vocational training in subjects that are in demand in the Big Rivers region.

Community work parties will also carry out practical, supervised community service activities that deliver visible benefits to local residents, and community organisations.

This work:

- gives back to the community, and
- supports rehabilitation, routine, and work readiness for participants.

This has worked well in regional work camps in Barkly and Datjala, where offenders have supported public works, environmental and land management projects and participated in community events.

## How will safety and security be managed?

Prisoners will reside at the facility and secure fencing and other necessary security measures will be implemented before any inmates take residence.

## How will the Katherine Corrections Skills and Training Centre be staffed?

Department of Corrections officers will manage the facility, while CDU qualified trainers will deliver training.

## Will this arrangement impact CDU's programs or activities on campus?

No. It will be business as usual at the Katherine Rural Campus, with continued delivery of high-quality VET programs, rural courses, and research initiatives, including the Air-F commercial drone testing facility, for the Big Rivers community.

The campus spans 4,400 hectares, and co-location is possible with clear separation between CDU students and prisoners. CDU and the Department of Corrections will prioritise the safety of students and staff throughout the development of this project.

## When will the Katherine Corrections Skills and Training Centre be opened?

The Katherine Corrections Skills and Training Centre is expected to commence operations under a phased approach in early 2026, following community engagement and required infrastructure approvals and development activities.

## Will the expansion create jobs?

Yes, new facilities will generate construction, management, and correctional services jobs, with a strong focus on employing local workers.

## Where can I find further information on the Katherine Corrections Skills and Training Centre?

For more information, go to [dli.nt.gov.au/projects](https://dli.nt.gov.au/projects)