

## **Introduction to the American Correctional Association**

In the United States there are more than 1,800 state and federal correctional facilities and more than 420 privately operated facilities. Of these, about 83%, some 1,500, are accredited by the American Correctional Association. But what is the ACA, what is accreditation, and what does it mean to operate an accredited facility.

The oldest and largest association of correctional professionals in the world, the American Correctional Association was established in 1870 and has more than 20,000 members, as well as 74 chapters and affiliated organizations. The Association is a multi-disciplinary organization of professionals representing all levels and facets of corrections and criminal justice. Among other things, ACA establishes standards governing corrections practices and operations, and it accredits institutions that comply with those standards.

Read more . . . [http://bit.ly/ACA\\_Accreditation](http://bit.ly/ACA_Accreditation)