Oklahoma State Penitentiary (OSP) is a male, maximum-security prison in McAlester. OSP was built in 1908 and is the oldest prison in the state. Its first structure included temporary quarters to house the inmates who built the facility. It housed the first inmates in 1909. OSP’s first buildings were the West Cellhouse and Administration Building. A rotunda and East Cellhouse were built later, as well as F Cellhouse. OSP is home to Oklahoma’s death row, the state’s death chamber, and disciplinary segregation inmates. The facility has five units, which house maximum-security and medium-security inmates. It is home to nearly 850 inmates, almost 80 percent of whom are serving sentences for violent crimes.

Over the past year, the agency has invested in several improvements and upgrades at OSP. These improvements will reduce future maintenance costs and provide a much safer environment for staff and inmates. These projects include:

- New HVAC units & roofing project on A-Unit will provide more efficient heating/cooling of the housing unit & correct any leaking roof issues.
- Door/lock replacement project on A, C, D & E Units will completely replace every cell door and lock in these housing units, making it safer for the officers and staff assigned to the units.
- New facility lighting project will dramatically improve the lighting within & around the entire facility with new high mast & building lights.
- Electrical upgrades will take place throughout the facility, replacing outdated electrical systems.

**Criminal Thinking**
OSP offers Thinking for a Change, Moral Reconation Therapy, and Associates 4 Success programs to address thinking, judgment errors, and relationships linked with criminal thinking and behavior.

**Education**
Most inmates lack education, a key component in avoiding re-incarceration. OSP offers literacy courses as well as Pre-High School Equivalency and High School Equivalency diplomas.

**Specialized Units**
OSP features a 24-7 infirmary, providing medical care for inmates who need intensive monitoring and treatment.

It also offers the Step-Down Program for newly arrived, maximum-security inmates who want to earn their way to a lower security level. The programming addresses criminal thinking and encourages pro-social behaviors.

**Notorious:** OSP has imprisoned some of Oklahoma’s most notorious criminals, including: Roger Dale Stafford - spree and serial killer; Arthur “Doc” Barker - murderer and robber; and Charles “Pretty Boy” Floyd - bank robber.